



Royal College of Nursing
Shaping nursing since 1916

Council

Date of meeting:	28 April 2016
Title of Paper:	Report back from Nursing Practice and Policy Committee
Appendices:	None
Presented by:	Sue Warner, Joint Chair
Is a decision required? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	

1. The Committee/Group met on 16th March 2016.

2016 Priorities

2. The 2016 priorities for the Nursing Department were presented to the committee. The main focus of discussion was around credentialing and clinical fellowships to define and recognise what advanced practice looks like in nursing.

Country Elections Update

3. The committee received updates on the election campaigns happening in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
4. Representatives from each country detailed what work the RCN had been doing and what RCN had been asking of political parties and candidates standing for these elections.
5. The committee discussed what work if any was being done on local elections within England. The main focus of campaigning was around

Agenda Item 7.1

Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland due to health being fully devolved.

6. Additionally, there was an update on the recent pay campaign which had taken place in Northern Ireland.

Credentialing

7. The committee received two papers on credentialing. The first gave context to the credentialing project and the second highlighted the work of Higher Education providers in delivering advanced practice.
8. The committee agreed to support the recommendation that 'Masters level' study should mean a full Masters award.

Nurse Associate and Student Bursary consultations

9. The committee received an update on the response to the Nursing Associate consultation. The key messages from the consultation are that the RCN would support a senior support role under the instruction of a nurse role. The consultation response has also advised that more work is done around assistant practitioners.
10. The committee discussed concerns around regulation and it was clarified that the title would need to be Nursing Associate and not Associate Nurse. It was also clarified that in order for the NMC to regulate the role, there would need to be a legislative change to their remit.
11. The committee then received an update on the Student Bursary consultation. At the time of the meeting, the consultation had yet to be released but was expected for the end of March.
12. The committee received an update on campaigning activity so far and it was noted that the response will aim to highlight the difference between Nursing students and students on other courses and the work they do on placement.

Mentorship summit

13. The committee received an update on the mentorship summit and presented the Executive Summary to the committee. It was reported that following the summit, work will be done to identify actions to move the mentorship project forwards.

Public Health Policy Paper

14. The committee received a paper on the role of nurses in public health nursing. It was reported that the work had been submitted as an article

Agenda Item 7.1

to HSJ and there was the opportunity to work with the Faculty of Public Health at their conference. In addition to this work, the Public Health forum will be producing a Library Exhibition between October and March to promote public health nursing.

15. The committee then received a report into obesity amongst nurses. The committee agreed that whilst the issue required a sensitive approach, without admitting there was a problem would mean shying away from a responsibility to nurses. The committee discussed the importance to take this on as a way of improving the health of the population, but agreed that the research could be used as a lever for change to ensure nurses were able to access healthy food at work, take regular breaks and to maintain an improved work-life balance.

Clinical Service Accreditation Alliance

16. The committee received a paper on the Clinical service Accreditation Alliance and agreed to endorse Option Two, as recommended by the paper.

Forums Report

17. The Chair presented the Forums report and the committee agreed three recommendations:
 - That Imaging Forum becomes a network.
 - That Critical Care and In-Flight Nursing changes its name to Critical Care and Flight Nursing.
 - That the Chairs of the Forensic and Criminal Justice Nursing Forums begin a consultation with members on merging the forums.

Date of next meeting: 7th July 2016

Megan Evans

Governance Adviser

020 76473659

Megan.evans@rcn.org.uk