Professional Nursing Committee

Minutes of the Meeting Held on 1 February 2019
in Annie Altschul (101) - RCN HQ, 20 Cavendish Square, London W1G 0RN

Present:
Simon Browes (Chair) East Midlands
Theresa Connor Scotland
Tracie Culpitt Health Practitioner (by teleconference for item 6)
Claire McGuigan Northern Ireland (by teleconference)
Jacky Price Eastern
Sally Young North West
Anne Marie Rafferty President (for item 4)

Observer:
Lindsay Cardwell Chair, HP Committee

In Attendance:
Stephanie Aiken Associate Director of Nursing (Education and Learning)
Yinglen Butt Associate Director of Nursing (Clinical Standards & Supporting Practice)
Lara Carmona Associate Director of Policy and Public Affairs (UK & International)
Jane Clarke RCN Group Secretary
Theresa Fyffe Director, RCN Scotland, UK Lead for the Staffing for Safe and Effective Care Campaign
Dame Donna Kinnair Acting Chief Executive & General Secretary (from item 5)
Bronagh Scott Interim Director of Nursing Policy & Practice
**Apologies:**

Dawn Cooper South West  
Julie Green West Midlands  
Rachel Hollis Yorkshire and the Humber  
Denise Llewellyn FRCN Wales  
Lucy Mason Student  
Mary Wells London

1. **Welcome, Apologies for Absence and Thanks**

1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, in particular Lindsay Cardwell, the new Chair of the Health Practitioners Committee.

1.2 Claire McGuigan joined the meeting by telephone. Tracie Culpitt also took part in item 6 by teleconference.

1.3 Apologies were received from Dawn Cooper, Julie Green, Denise Llewellyn Lucy Mason and Mary Wells.

1.4 The Committee asked for their thanks be recorded to Melanie Johnson her leadership as Chair over the past year.

2. **Confidentiality and Declarations of Interest**

2.1 Members were reminded that the meeting was being held under the terms of the RCN Confidentiality Policy.

2.2 There were no new declarations of interest in relation to any items on the agenda.

3. **Minutes and Actions Arising from the Meetings held on 30 October and 11 December 2018**

3.1 The minutes of the meetings held on 30 October and 11 December 2018 were agreed as accurate records of the two meetings subject to correcting the spelling of the names of two members of staff.

3.2 The Committee reviewed the note of actions arising from the two meetings.

3.3 An update on the Termination of Pregnancy project was noted and it was agreed that the Chair would circulate the written update he had received from Claire McGuigan, the Committee member on the Group with the minutes.

3.4 The Chair also agreed to circulate a link to a CQC briefing on Nursing Associates which included some really important detail on registration of services (in England) supervision and delegation by nurses and HCPs and had implications for all countries in terms of unregistered workforce.
4. **Staffing for Safe and Effective Care in the UK**

4.1 In introducing the paper, Theresa Fyffe reminded the Committee that the impetus for the campaign came from a Congress debate in 2016.

4.2 The Committee noted that UK principles on staffing for safe and effective care had been published in May 2018. Staffing for safe and effective care was dependent upon these principles and legislation should underpin each of these areas.

4.3 The Committee was reminded that a primary aim of the UK-wide staffing for safe and effective care programme was to have accountability for staffing enshrined in law in each country within the UK.

4.4 Theresa explained that the collaborative model approved by Council to take forward the work recognised the different stages in each of the four countries within a UK-wide framework.

4.5 It was noted that the mechanism for achieving the work would be through a decision-making structure led by Council with oversight by a separate Overview and Scrutiny Committee which was to be chaired by a member of the Professional Nursing Committee. The President was to play a key member facing and external communication roles.

4.6 It was agreed to circulate the detailed paper approved by Council in January to Committee members together with a copy of the presentation.

4.7 The key elements of the campaign were discussed with particular focus on the knowledge and evidence element and the role of the Professional Nursing Committee.

4.8 The President emphasised that the campaign was not about rolling-out one model of membership engagement but would be a learning process from piloting different participative models.

4.9 An update on the current status of the campaign in each country was also noted.

4.10 Simon Browes, Acting Chair of the Professional Nursing Committee, reported that he would be attending the launch of the England Campaign on 14 February 2019.

4.11 It was noted that the Terms of Reference for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee would be circulated and Committee members were asked to let Jane Clarke, RCN Group Secretary, know if they were interested in, and would have the time to chair or represent the Committee on the UK Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
5. **2018 Congress Items**

5.1 Yinglen Butt, Associate Director of Quality and Regulation, took the Committee through the latest draft of each of the progress reports on the 2018 Congress items allocated to the Professional Nursing Committee.

5.2 The Committee then discussed with John Bryant, Corporate Communications and Publications Manager, how best to present the information to the members at Congress in an attractive and accessible format and in a way that demonstrated the impact the resolution had had and detailed the work the College had undertaken to achieve the outcome.

5.3 It was recognised that it was late in the process for 2018 and it was agreed to develop and agree a new template for 2020 ahead of 2019 Congress.

6. **Working with the Health Practitioner Committee**

6.1 Lindsay Cardwell, Chair of the HP Committee, shared with the Committee the priorities of the HP Committee.

6.2 The priorities for the HP Committee over the coming year were the campaign for regulation and the educational standards to underpin regulation, the career pathways work and the review of membership categories.

6.3 It was agreed that these were all areas that the two Committees should work together on and it was agreed to give further thought outside the meeting to how best to do that.

6.4 In addition it was agreed to ensure the HP Committee were involved in the work the Committee was scoping on the community based workforce.

6.5 There was a discussion about the name of the HP Committee and the Chair agreed to discuss with her Committee the proposal from the Professional Nursing Committee that the Committee should be renamed the Nursing Support Committee.

**Date of Next Meeting: 21 March 2019**