

RCN Scotland Board briefing from 10 September 2020 meeting

The meeting was held via video

Board Performance Report - Over the quarter (April, May, June) the staff at RCN Scotland have adapted to home working. . This has been unprecedented times for members and for staff and the RCN is working to support and influence on members behalf.

There had been a focus on supporting and influencing on the issues that have the biggest impact on our members - from clinical guidance to provision of PPE and testing. A key focus has been the need for community services and care homes to be resourced and supported. Over 400 student members signed up to the RCN facebook group. RCN has been raising the issues of risks faced by members from black, Asian and minority ethnic communities.

RCN Scotland held a very successful virtual annual debate looking at the impact of the pandemic on mental health.

RCN Scotland had sustained media interest of the quarter with the team responding to more than 100 enquiries from print and broadcast media. There has been significant political engagement which has included briefing MSPs on key issues and regular meetings with the Cabinet Secretary.

Pay - Fair Pay for Nursing was launched on 28 August 2020. <https://www.rcn.org.uk/get-involved/campaign-with-us/fair-pay-for-nursing> Members are encouraged to record a 30second video on why nursing deserves a pay rise on their phones to pass to the comms team which can then be shared via social media. Please contact the Comms team on 0131 662 6173 or email paycampaignscotland@rcn.org.uk

Branch Finances - Branches were encouraged to submit plans for further spending as soon as possible. Assistance can be sought from the Finance team, please get in touch Sue.timmins@rcn.org.uk in the first instance.

2021 Scottish Parliament Election Manifesto Development – The Short Life Working Group (SLWG) and staff have been developing the RCN’s plans. Board approved the draft asks for further development by the SLWG. Further information will be shared when the development work has been progressed.

Equality & Diversity – A network for members of the Black, Asian and Ethnic Minorities has been agreed by the Board and work is underway to establish this. Progression with the LGBT+ and Overseas networks has been a challenge during the pandemic due to the challenges of communications.

SenseMaker – The Board agreed to be a part of the pilot that was started by RCN Northern Ireland (NI). It is an online approach to enabling members to share their stories. The NI pilot has provided quality information that will help the RCN to support and influence on behalf of members. More information will be available soon.

Safe Staffing – The RCN is pushing Scottish Government to publish a timeline for implementation of the Health and Care (Staffing) (Scotland) Act. A number of virtual events are being planned to support senior nurses and those involved in workforce planning.

Care Homes – Digital technology is being used to engage with members and potential members working in care homes. Work is also underway to support Executive Nurse Directors with their new responsibilities for care homes.

West of Scotland Office – a new office space for staff is being identified as the lease on the current building comes to an end in the first quarter of 2021.

Reps learning – there had been very positive feedback on the virtual model being used. Different models are being used across the UK and evaluation will be undertaken to consider what elements of the current models will be retained when it is possible to return to the previous method of delivery post-pandemic.

Reps Conference – This year the Reps Conference is being held virtually w/c 23 November, we are working with outside providers to make sure it is an exciting, engaging event. The format will enable delegates to drop in and out. More information to follow shortly.

Board meetings for 2021 – these will be held on the following dates, and if members wish to attend the open session of the Board they should email scottish.board@rcn.org.uk Thursday 18 February; Thursday 27 May; Thursday 2 September; and Thursday 9 December

Board member reports – it was noted that there were significant concerns regarding some organisational change plans that are being pushed through with little staffside engagement. The Board were informed that the Scottish Partnership Forum will be issuing guidance on this matter soon.

The next Board meeting will be held on **Thursday 10 December 2020**.

Ends.