

RCN PORTSMOUTH BRANCH MEETING

Wednesday 12 November 2025

Lotus Rehabilitation Centre, D10 5-630pm

Attendance:

Sue Morris (Chair, Steward, H+S rep))

Kim Bygrave (Learning rep)

Gloanne Lapuz-Flores (Secretary, H+S rep)

Chris Lock – from Totton – came as closest and familiar with QA Hospital, but actually would be a member of Southampton Branch – Sue to forward name to appropriate Branch

On Teams:

Sam Crooks (RO)

Shelley Pearce

Joan Wilson– Based at Solent, was Preceptor Lead, now retired member

1. Welcome and Introduction

2. Apologies:

Gary Browning

Jo Clarke

Gehad Karmout

3. Review of the Previous Meeting:

AGM held 17th October within Study day event

Exec roles:

Chair Sue Morris

Secretary: Gloanne Lapuz

Treasurer: Gehad Karmout

Vice chair: Joanne Clark

EDI: Gary Browning

AGM documentation to be completed and submitted to regional office asap

4. Feedback from SD

Successful event, although fewer attendees than hoped, but good participation and presenters all good.

27 applied , 18 attended

16 evaluations completed. All positive. Comments: earlier advertising and promote student participation. Difficulties noted with TEAMS presenter

Suggestions for future events: Racism, coping with stress and pressure, medication errors

Apparently, racism was a topic at NMC conference 2 years ago

5. Branch plan 2026-27

Activities for the year – recruitment of members and reps, introducing RCN members to branch, Study events – day with AGM, potential joint training with Hampshire Branch. We do need more members to take an active role in the Branch too as will be needing execs places filled. (Sue will have completed tenure). Joan queried how people can be involve and take interest for the branch officer role, Is there any prep ? advertising to cover the role

Shelley did expressed the role of a secretary is hard, and being in that role should really like it. However, good to have in the CV.

Discussion about recruitment:

Gary (not present) based at St. James' - need to recruit more in the community

Joan attended a meeting with overseas nurses; appears they have not been oriented in a timely manner, for they appear that they still have a lot of things to learn and know , especially the benefits in joining a union.

Joan explained the importance and Benefits being an RCN member, letting members be involved – not necessary to become a rep – expecting people to be in attendance to a meeting; having options, like TEAMS.

With recruitment – maybe going to Universities and Introducing the RCN membership on open days. To be a member, to join while still in 1st year rather than when they are in their 3rd year. Emphasising the value of being a member, like able to access the RCN Library.

Joan also discussed about revalidation; what materials to use; to learn / reflect about

Union Awareness / drop in session– Is this something we can do ? when ? Spring time. Need to have better placing than previous session

6. Band 2-3 update

Members balloted re acceptance of proposal. No news as yet re result for RCN. Unison accepted. A/w Unite too.

Noted the Band 2/3 uplift has been slow- offer now to match Southampton, - proposing August 23 as back pay, possible > £7000

7. Corridor Care

Discussed how escalation beds are used. As of this time , no changes, members are anxious. No effect on patient flow

Sue already raised this in the Health and Safety meeting – the areas used should have been risk assessed again.

G1 escalation bed - unable to use the portable xray. Gym D10 and F1 in use again

? Ops putting patients in YNP, who are even SOB – will follow up on this topic.

Walkabout to be planned

8. Issues outside of PHUT

No one present currently working in community

9. AOB / Discussion

- i) HCSW Day coming up soon – Nov 24, we have a stand (in education centre, QAH)
- ii) Colleagues from Hampshire branch still proposing a combined event ? how to go about it. Where hold event eg, – Havant College ? to rent a room, Gosport Ward Memorial – accessibility. Alternatively, a webinar. Kim proposed that the Learning Reps to have a get together with Rosemary (Board member) – to find it out with Hampshire.
- iii) Congress Planning – Liverpool
Portsmouth 4 representatives
Southampton 7 representatives
IOW 2 representatives
Application to Congress is open and executives will decide places. IOW members will be joining Portsmouth Branch (pending decision), and likely not included with us for allocation, but could be by May so their places come across to Portsmouth.
- iv) It was discussed that HCSW who is doing the ECO for patient do not have a replacement for the whole 7-12H shift
- v) Reps training 13th November London. Sue + Chibu attending

Meeting adjourned at 18.45

Date of Next Meeting January 12th 2026
In person and Teams 530 -7 pm