

**Proposals to amend the Non-Executive Director eligibility criteria
on the Public Health Wales NHS Trust Board**

Consultation Response Form

<p>Your name: Anne Muiyang</p> <p>Organisation (if relevant): Royal College of Nursing</p> <p>E-mail address: Anne.Muiyang@rcn.org.uk Telephone number: 02920 680 754</p> <p>Postal address: Ty Maeth, King George V Drive East, Cardiff, CF14 4XZ</p>

Responses to consultations are likely to be made public, on the internet or in a report. If you would prefer your response to remain anonymous, please tick here:	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Questions

Question 1	YES	NO
Do you agree with the proposal to remove the requirement that any candidate for the Local Authority Non-Executive Director post <u>must</u> be nominated by a local authority or local authorities in Wales?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Please let us know why It is important the role of Local Authority Non-Executive Director not only has expertise of local authorities in Wales but also a range of contemporary contacts and the confidence of the sector when considering the implementation of policy</p>		

Question 2	YES	NO
Do you agree with the proposal that any candidate for the Local Authority Non-Executive Director post must be able to evidence experience of local authorities in Wales, in order to demonstrate they have the required perspective for the role?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please let us know why

It is important that the person fulfilling this role has experience and expertise in the field of local government and specifically in Wales. The policy environment in Wales is specific to Wales.

Question 3	YES	NO
Do you agree with the proposal to remove the requirement that any potential candidate for the University Non-Executive Director post <u>must</u> be nominated by a university in Wales?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please let us know why

The role requires expertise in a particular subject field rather than emphasis on working with the higher education sector However please see our recommended other criteria below.

Question 4	YES	NO
Do you agree with the proposal to remove the requirement for candidates to be a teaching or research specialist in public health and replace this with a broader requirement for candidates to hold a post in a university that is related to health?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Please let us know why

The RCN is opposed to this proposal. The expertise should absolutely be in public health or public health policy. The phrase 'related to health' is far too broad.

Question 5	YES	NO
Do you agree with the proposal to allow candidates from any university to apply for the University Non-Executive Director post?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Please let us know why

The RCN has mixed views on this proposal. Universities in Wales have an internationally high reputation for research, teaching and contribution to public policy. A wide pool of candidates is available for the Board to draw on.

However, enabling people to apply from outside Wales would assist in 'pushing out' news of Welsh achievements in Public Health.

Question 6	YES	NO
Do you agree with the proposal to allow candidates who are employees or members of any voluntary sector organisation to apply for the Voluntary Sector Non-Executive Director post?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Please let us know why</p> <p>The RCN is opposed to the proposal. The voluntary sector in health is highly developed in Wales with a long tradition of successful mutuality, social enterprise and coproduction on public policy. A wide pool of candidates is available for the Board to draw on.</p> <p>Moreover there is an obligation on institutions on Wales to strengthen Welsh civic society and thus contribute to its sustainability. To this end opportunities for career development and contribution to public policy in Wales and about Wales should be allowed to flourish.</p>		

Question 7	YES	NO
Do you agree that any successful candidate would have to demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of public health matters relevant to Wales?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Please let us know why</p> <p>The RCN absolutely agrees with this statement and this should be explicit in the Regulations.</p>		

<p>Question 8: If you have any other comments please let us know using the space below.</p>
<p>In the Autumn of 2015 the Welsh Government conducted a high profile public consultation on a green paper Our Health Our Health Service. Part of this paper considered the governance of Trust and Health Boards in Wales and specifically considered the membership of the Boards of these organisations. One of the arguments put forward for altering the current statutory membership of these Boards was the desire for consistency between Trusts and Health Boards.</p>

The Royal College of Nursing in Wales does not believe therefore that the timing and content of this proposal from Public Health Wales is. It is potentially confusing, and creates the impression that Public Health Wales is not aware of Welsh Government policy. This in turn does not help to inspire confidence in the proposals.

The shortened timescale of 6 weeks public consultation (over the Christmas period) is likewise unhelpful if there is a genuine desire to engage with the sector.

Royal College of Nursing Wales

The RCN is the world's largest professional union of nurses, representing over 430,000 nurses, midwives, health visitors and nursing students, including over 25,000 members in Wales. The majority of RCN members work in the NHS with around a quarter working in the independent sector. The RCN works locally, nationally and internationally to promote standards of care and the interests of patients and nurses, and of nursing as a profession. The RCN is a UK-wide organisation, with its own National Boards for Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. The RCN is a major contributor to nursing practice, standards of care, and public policy as it affects health and nursing.

The RCN represents nurses and nursing, promotes excellence in practice and shapes health policies.

Please return this form to the Welsh Government no later than **11 January 2016**.

Email address for responses or queries:

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Postal responses should be sent to:

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