

RCN Scotland Board

Minutes of the RCN Scotland Board meeting held virtually/in person,

09.00-15.00 on Friday 3 March 2023

OPEN SESSION

Present:

North Sector

Katherine Dumigan (KD)

Jackie Leith (JLe)

June Ramsay (JR)

Martin Macgregor (MM)

Vice-Chair

East Sector

Lesley Cunningham (LC)

#Allina Das (AD)

Jane Gibson (JG)

Hilary Nelson (HN)

West Sector

Derek Clark (DC)

Julie Lamberth (JL)

Sandra Milne (SM)

Greg Usrey (GU)

Chair

Other Seats

+Jasmin Clark (JC)

Martha Gill

Council

Professional Nursing Committee

In attendance:

Colin Poolman (CP)

Eileen McKenna (EMcK)

Norman Provan (NP)

Luci Pollard

Carol Harris (CH)

Sian Kiely

Philip Coghill

Ross Sanderson

#*Nicola Gordon

Director, RCN Scotland

Associate Director, Nursing, Policy & Practice, RCN Scotland

Associate Director, Employment Relations, RCN Scotland

Board Administrator, RCN Scotland

Communications and Public Affairs Manager, RCN Scotland

Knowledge and Research Manager

Scotland Lead for Pay, Terms and Conditions

Observer and Policy Advisor

Policy Manager

Apologies:

Tobias Kunkel (TK)

Trade Union Committee

*left before the end of the meeting

+joined after the start of the meeting

#joined the meeting virtually

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed the Board to the open session.

2. Minutes of the meetings held on 8 December 2022

These were noted as an accurate record of the meeting.

'Buddies' were identified for the new Board members as follows:

Greg Usrey to support Jane Gibson; Martin Macgregor to support Katherine Dumigan; Derek Clark to support June Ramsay; Jackie Leith to support Lesley Cunningham.

3. Update from the Board Chair on Confidential Session

3.1 No additional members or staff joining the Open session, so no update was required.

4. Congress – voting members

4.1 Norman Provan, Associate Director for Employment Relations spoke to this item. The Board agreed the branch proposals

4.2 The Board agreed that the Chair, Vice-Chair and Director could decide on any further applications received with the Board members copied into any correspondence.

Discussion

4.3 Some Board members noted the lack of members wishing to attend Congress.

4.4 It was noted that there had been no applications for additional funding.

4.5 It was agreed that central communications should go out to members reminding them of the opportunity.

4.6 It was noted that some branches had been successful in using social media to promote Congress. It is important to encourage members who have never attended Congress to consider attending, as they would be well supported by members who are more experienced. The Board were reminded of the Board meeting in April to discuss Congress where the list of attendees will be shared.

4.7 The Board ratified the Branch nominations.

5. Staffing for Safe and Effective Care Update

5.1 Eileen McKenna, Associate Director, Nursing, Policy and Professional Practice, spoke to this item. Ten Boards have indicated that they are willing to test parts of the legislation. It is important that the testing is robust, and feedback is

complete. The RCN Scotland workforce report is currently being drafted. Updated workforce figures are expected from the Scottish Government shortly and this will further inform the report. It is likely that additional support will be required to analyse data coming from the testing across the Boards.

6. National Care Service

6.1 Eileen McKenna, Associate Director, Nursing, Policy and Professional Practice, spoke to this item. The paper gives an update on the progress of work in relation to the National Care Service. The team has been looking at the RCN's priorities and developing a project plan to ensure that RCNS can influence MSPs. Consideration has been given to the ways in which RCNS can engage with members but currently there is a lack of specifics in some areas. The Scottish Government's approach is to use 'co-design' so there is not much clarity currently regarding many areas. The National Care Service is a key risk due to the nature of the proposed framework. It will impact on the service and on pensions.

6.2 It is anticipated that the Committee will publish their report in March 2023.

Nicole Gordon left the meeting

7. Student Finance

7.1 Eileen McKenna, Associate Director for Nursing, Policy and Practice and Sian Kiely, Knowledge and Research Manager spoke to this item. The matters highlighted are noted in the Confidential Minutes of the Board meeting.

8. Scotland Representatives Conference 2023

8.1 Margaux Lobban, Professional Learning & Development Lead spoke to this item. She initially outlined representative recruitment. She reminded the Board that a new curriculum was due to start last year, and then was delayed in 2023 due to the pay issues. A flexible course is now available, and 28 applications have been received.

8.2 The RCN Scotland Representatives Conference will be held on 2 & 3 November 2023. A number of interesting topics have already been suggested. Board members were invited to input into the working group.

Discussion

8.3 June Ramsay, Allina Das, and Sandra Milne agreed to sit on the working group. The Board were keen to know of any changes to the delivery of the curriculum.

9. Update on COVID Inquiry

- 9.1 Norman Provan, Associate Director for Employment Relations spoke to is item. Previously the Board received a detailed overview of the work of the Inquiry and what the plans were for the RCN. It was noted that Lord Brailsford is the new Chair to the Inquiry and all seats on the Inquiry Board were filled. RCNS has been given 'core member status'. The Inquiry has requested that RCNS provides all information for relating to covid. All documents from RCNS will need to be renamed to meet the Inquiry's naming convention. RCNS has met the requirements of the Inquiry. The Inquiry has been asked to meet RCNS legal fees in relation to the Inquiry.

10. Council Update

- 10.1 The Council member updated the Board, much of the work of the last two Council meetings were in relation to the pay dispute in England.

11. Trade Union Committee Report

- 11.1 The report was noted.

12. Professional Nursing Committee Report

- 12.1 The reports were noted. It is anticipated that a draft position on Nursing Associates will be developed for England. The Board noted that all Congress items from 2022 that were relevant to PNC are being monitored and PNC has regular updates on these.

13. Student Committee Report

- 13.1 Sian Kiely, Knowledge and Research Manager, spoke to this item. Both Student Committee members had been invited to attend the Board but were able to attend due to other commitments. The Board noted that the Committee members, Chloe Jackson and Lou Hyett-Collins, have been involved in the student finance work. The Student Committee is currently looking its workplan and for work around Congress.

14. Nursing Support Worker Committee Report

- 14.1 The report was noted.

15. Board members' Reports

- 15.1 Forth Valley – There is currently stage 4 escalation in Forth Valley, and it is anticipated that it will be a move to stage 5.

16. Any Other business

- 16.1 Greg Usrey was presented his Long Service Award and congratulated by the Chair and Board.