

ROYAL COLLEGE OF NURSING NORTHERN IRELAND

**Minutes of the open session of the Northern Ireland Board meeting held on Monday
24 February 2020 in the Board Room, 17 Windsor Avenue.**

Present

<u>Fiona Devlin</u>	(FD)	Chair & RCN Council member
Andrew Doherty	(AD)	Vice Chair
Roisin Devlin	(RoD)	
Siobhan Donald	(SD)	RCN Professional Nursing Committee Vice-Chair
Eileen Dunlop	(ED)	
David Ferran	(DF)	
Kathryn Gault	(KG)	
Denise Kelly	(DK)	RCN Trade Union Committee member
Anne Marie Marley	(AMM)	
Helen McNeilly	(HM)	
Briege Quinn	(BQ)	

Apologies

Delegates

Maurice Devine	(MD)
Audrey Harris	(AH)
Molly Kane	(MK)
Cherith Rogers	(CR)

Staff in attendance

Pat Cullen	(PC)	Director
Colin Poolman	(CP)	Associate Director (arriving late, travel disruption)
Rita Devlin	(RD)	Head of Professional Development
Joy Ireland	(JI)	Business Manager
John Knape	(JK)	Head of Policy, Communications & Marketing
Brian Morton	(BM)	Operations Manager

Members observing

Mary McCullagh, South Western Branch
Amanda Smith, Belfast Branch

Guest observing

Jacqui McKinlay
CEO, Centre for Public Scrutiny

Notes

Fiona Adair (FA) EA to Director / Board54.09 Tm717 T40 G()TJETQq0.000008871 0 5

PC remarked that 64% of the NI nursing workforce was at band 5, an issue which had been raised repeatedly by nurses during recent engagement events. Addressing this would be a priority for RCN NI, going forward.

It would be necessary to have people appropriately trained to undertake job evaluations. Ideally, a training resource could be developed within RCN and this would require an additional local resource.

***At this point, CP joined the meeting**

Provision of legal services

The reason for considering a new model of legal services was queried.

The Deputy Director advised that discussions as to the best model for providing legal services to members had been taking place in light of rising costs, in particular for regulatory work.

Scoping work had been ongoing and a re-tender process would take place in coming months for a three-year contract as it was not currently viable to employ an in-house legal advisor. The continuing priority was ensuring quality of service for members.

RCN Annual Lecture

The Chair explained that no annual lecture had taken place in 2019 due to the campaign and building works in the reception area.

In light of decreasing attendance figures in recent years, it had been decided that the format would be reviewed.

A paper would be presented to the RCN NI Board at its next meeting, for consideration.

Nurse of the Year Awards 2020

The Awards would this year be held on 24 September, in the Culloden Hotel. It was expected that the Minister for Health would attend.

The nominations process would open within the next couple of weeks.

Review of Reps' L&D

A progress update was requested. Head of Professional Development provided an outline of work to date and advised that a 2020 timetable for CPD would be devised.

The Director added that preliminary discussions were taking place regarding a quarterly 'learning newsletter' which could include learning derived from anonymised NMC cases.

20/16	NI Board representation requests:		
20/16/a	RCN Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee for UK Safe & Effective Staffing The Terms of Reference had been shared and the Chair explained that the Board member who had previously sat on the committee had stood down due to work commitments. BQ indicated her interest in fulfilling this role. *At this point, CP left the meeting	nib/20/16/a	
20/16/b	Proposal to introduce 'Sensemaker' The Head of Professional Development explained this exciting project, which would form part of ongoing Safe Staffing work, and asked that a Board member would take part in the Programme Board. HMcN undertook to fulfil the role. A regular progress report would be provided to the NI Board.	nib/20/16/b	
	Items for information / noting		
20/17	Chair's Report The report was noted.	nib/20/17	
20/18	Director's Report The report was noted. The Director advised of her intent to change the format slightly, going forward.	nib/20/18	
20/19	RCN Council summary report to members, open session The report was noted.	nib/20/19	
20/20	RCN Independent Sector strategy – presentation The Chair invited Dolores McCormick (DM) to make her presentation to the Board. DM thanked the Board for allowing her the opportunity to present this work, and explained that it was a joint effort between the RCN and the Independent Sector.		

Appendix I