

Regional Board Open Minutes

Royal College of Nursing South-West Regional Board

Minutes of Meeting held on
Thursday 23rd February 2023
Open Minutes

In Attendance

VB - Vicky Brotherton	Board Chair & Plymouth Branch
NG - Natasha Goswell	Vice Chair & Branch
JJ - Jeanette Jones	Greater Bristol Branch
KB - Kirsten Bland	Dorset Branch
CE - Cathy Ellingford	Devon Branch
EH - Emma Hallam	Trade Union Committee
NS - Netty Snelling	Wiltshire Branch
MS - Matthew Stewart	Gloucestershire Branch
AT - Ashleigh Taylor	Greater Bristol Branch
SDH-Steve Dunne-Howells	Bath Branch / guest on this day
Vacancy	Council Member

RCN Staff in Attendance

LM - Lucy Muchina	Regional Director
SP - Steven Pulsford	RCN, Operational Manager
TA - Tony Aspinall	Regional Service Manager & Board Administrator
VL - Vicky Lander	Regional Administrator & Board Minute Taker
TR - Tracey Roberts	Regional Comms Manager

Apologies

Colin Baker	Professional Nurse Committee
-------------	------------------------------

Absent

Nicholas Browning -
Greater Bristol Branch

<p>Item 1.</p>	<p>Welcome & apologies for absence by - <i>Vicky Brotherton Board Chair – Southwest Region</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VB welcomed the board group to the afternoons open session. • VB did round robin of the new board members as TR joined in the afternoon. • Apologies - Colin Baker. • Absent – Nicolas Browning.
<p>Item 2.</p>	<p>Minutes and actions from the previous meeting <i>Vicky Brotherton, Board Chair – Southwest Region</i></p> <p>2.1 To agree accuracy of the minutes – All ok</p> <p>2.2 To review the actions from the last meeting – All ok</p> <p>2.3 Matters arising not covered by the agenda – None.</p>
<p>Item 3.</p>	<p>Key messages from closed session of the board meeting <i>Vicky Brotherton, Board Chair – Southwest Region</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strike action feedback and Pros and Cons. • Banding structure of 2/3 and share information. • Strategy Plan. • Board constitution. • Branch executives' invitation to open board sessions, and funds allowed for their travel. • Council elections opening 3 March 2023.
<p>Item 4.</p>	<p>Items to declare under Any Other Business <i>Vicky Brotherton, Board Chair – Southwest Region</i></p> <p>None</p>
<p>Item 5.</p>	<p>This item number was a void on the agenda. Included on minutes to keep item numbers aligned to the agenda.</p>
<p>Item 6.</p>	<p>Decision and Discussion Items</p> <p>6.1 Regional Board Funding for Branches 2023 <i>Chair, Vicky Brotherton</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA went ran through and updated the board funding is £17.4k. and the branch funding as separate to this. • TA asked the board group to decide on the preferred use of funding, along with branch plans. If no plans in place and funds not utilised, when yearend occurs, the funds will be lost. • TA suggested to retain the whole finding, as and when branches want funding for events, to fill in the form which is easy to apply for funds.

	<p>ACTION: TA – Branches to submit plans with budget request amount by April to TA, along with a MS Teams meeting with final plans after April.</p> <p>6.2 Strategy <i>RD, Lucy Muchina</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LM has already presented this in the closed session. <p>6.3 Interim Equality & Diversity Strategy <i>Interim Equality & Diversities Co-ordinator Bruno Daniel.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bruno Daniels joined via MS Teams and gave a presentation on the Equality and Diversity Strategy.
<p>Item 7.</p>	<p>Consultation Items <i>South West Regional Director, Lucy Muchina</i></p> <p>No comments or questions.</p>
<p>Item 8.</p>	<p>Communications <i>Tracey Roberts, Communications Manager</i></p> <p>8.1 Communications Report –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TR introduced herself and VF role to the board for the benefit of the new members. TR and VF SW comms and recently linking in with Lilly Coombs-Berry. TR remit is based around political and stakeholder relations. Along with covering all aspects of social media. TR is also the pay lead for the SW region. • TR promoted blogs with the board group as being great way of being heard and sighted with members, and TR / VF will help fully in creating the blog. • VF will update the board group webpage and will require a photo and little bio on each new board group member. • TR gave details how comms support branches, with things like MPs meetings, and promoting events with leaflets along with social media. And can also send out bulk emails to branch members. • TR also advised she can update branches with how many reps and members are within patches, along with they're strengths to assist branches, but unable to provide names. • TR run through all social media and media that can be utilised and supported. <p>8.2 Strike / Pay Activity –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last August the RCN was asked to go out to Trusts and be visual to encourage members to vote for ballot on industrial strike action. And the return was almost every Trust qualified to strike with their members votes. • TR shared all the numbers, activities, staffing and supporting numbers for the strikes and balloting. Which was a significant conquest and achievement.

	<p>8.3 Congress 2023 <i>Tony Aspinall, Regional Service Manager</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congress 2023 will be held in Brighton. • Branches are now confirming the names and numbers of the requesting attendee members, this needs to be completed by the middle of March. • The accommodation will be The Jury's in at Brighton station. 46 rooms have been allocated. • Parking is scarce, therefore looking at train travel for all members. Or where train travel is difficult, a coach will be provided for travel. The areas for difficult train travel is Cornwall, Plymouth, and Exeter. • AGM will not be part of Congress this year, instead it's being held in Birmingham.
<p>Item 9.</p>	<p>Reporting Bodies <i>Task & Finish Groups</i></p> <p>None</p>
<p>Item 10.</p>	<p>Council Report <i>South West Regional Director, Lucy Muchina</i></p> <p>LM run through the key areas of the council report. There were no questions on report at this time.</p>
<p>Item 11.</p>	<p>Reports from Governance Committees <i>Emma Hallam, TU Committee member.</i> <i>Colin Baker, PN Committee member</i></p> <p>11.1 Trade Union Committee –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EH report was attached on the agenda. EH also gave key points as an overview from the TU Committee. • During the meetings discussed industrial strike action and all disputes that arise, within different counties. • Rep's governance is also discussed. • Currently looking at Job evaluations around the agenda for change and the ripple effect this has for job descriptions. • Pensions are also a high topic, with many different issues involved and being raised. • Health and Safety is also one of the main topics. • And EH workstream is looking at the long Covid effects and impacts. • The pay review body has just had an extensive meeting around long Covid. But it's felt it's not fit for purpose and Council will remove this. Therefore, the RCN are looking for recognition amongst other organisations.

	<p>11.2 Professional Nursing Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report attached within the agenda. <p>11.3 Nursing Support Workers Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDH advised the next meeting will be held on the 6/3. • SDH gave an overview of the NSW Committee. • The committee look at different ways they can assist with resources for RCN members - HCAs. • There are some regional and national places available on the committee and elections closed on the 12/12/22. <p>11.4 Students Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report attached on agenda. <p>11.5 Reps Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report attached on the agenda.
<p>Item 12.</p>	<p>Items from Governance</p> <p>None</p>
<p>Item 13.</p>	<p>Any Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AT – Formally wanted to thank TA for doing the branch induction last week, AT found it helpful in giving insight and preparation. And going forward might be also beneficial to see details on data and stats. • TA – Board development day to be soon and will look at an agenda. TA will confirm the date soon. • TA – Suggested to start the closed board meeting at 09:30 or shorter lunch break going forward. Also discussed option to have closed meeting 10:00-13:00, then 14:00-15:30 for the open board session. • TR – Asked the group if they require any training to please let her know and this will be included within the next board development day. • NJ – Last summer the board group started talking about doing half day sessions for the group. VB updated this will be discussed in the board development day to be updated in the next board meeting in May. • VB – Thanked everybody for a great meeting and being proactively involved. VB also encouraged the group to please be active within branches.

	Close of meeting 15:10
--	------------------------

Date of next meeting: 25 May 2023

Membership: Colin Baker, Kirsten Bland, Vicky Brotherton (Chair), Nicholas Browning, Cathy Ellingford, Emma Hallam, Natasha Goswell (Deputy Chair), Jeanette Jones, Netty Snelling, Matthew Stewart and Ashleigh Taylor