

RCN Boards – terms of reference

Role and delegated authority of the Board

Pursuant to Standing Order 23.1, the role of the Board is further described as follows:

- i. to be accountable for the development of RCN policy and contribute to RCN policy in [N Ireland/Scotland/Wales/England] within principles established by RCN Council
- ii. to be accountable for and ensure that priorities set by Council are actioned in that region or country
- iii. to liaise and communicate with members in that region or country and put forward their views, ideas and concerns
- iv. to be accountable for and ensure that region or country works in partnership with external stakeholders in line with the decisions of RCN Council
- v. to contribute that region or country's perspective to RCN strategy and planning
- vi. to be accountable for and monitor that region or country's performance against its annual operational plan and budget
- vii. to be accountable for and ensure that issues specific to that region or country that may have UK-wide implications are raised with RCN Council and/or its committees
- viii. to encourage, promote, facilitate and support the advancement of nursing in all its specialities within the region or country in line with RCN strategy and policy.

Membership of the Board

Members of the Board must be a member of the RCN as defined under Standing Order 5.2

There shall be no more than 15 members of the Board.

Members of the board (other than student members) must have been in continuous membership of the RCN for three years immediately prior to the close of nominations for the election in which they are elected

Membership of the Board shall comprise the Council member, Trade Union Committee member and the Professional Nursing Committee member for the country/region together with members elected using locally defined constraints applied at the voting stage in elections.

Elections to the Board

Elections to the Board will be conducted in accordance with Council's electoral procedure and regulations for elections and under the guidance of the RCN Returning Officer.

Elections will use the voting with constraints model, constraints being applied at the voting stage.

Term of office

The term of office of elected members of the Board shall be four years and members shall be eligible for re-election for one further term of office.

One half of the Board members shall retire every two years.

Each term of office is four years. The maximum no of terms a member can serve is set out in the Regulation on terms of office approved by Council in 2014.

The office of a member of the Board shall ipso facto be vacated in line with the provisions for Council members in the Charter, Standing Orders and regulations and if they cease to be a member of a branch in the country/region.

Mid-term (casual) vacancies

A vacancy on the Board caused by death, resignation or otherwise shall be filled in accordance with the process for filling casual vacancies agreed by Council in 2013.

Chair and officers of the Board

Delegated authority to Boards will be via the agreed scheme of delegation.

Secretary of the Board

The Secretary to the Board shall be the Country or Regional Director.