

MINUTES

National Nursing and Midwifery Sector Committee

13 February 2009 11.00am – 4.00pm **Room 3.1, UNISON, 1 Mabledon Place, London WC1H 9AJ**

PRESENT:

John Gilgunn (Northern Ireland); Alex Joyce (Scotland); Geraldine Maddison (Northern); Mick McKeown (Co-optee); Jean Morris (Wales, Ann Moses (Yorkshire & Humberside), Chris Sullivan (North West); Bindy Sumner (South West); Pam Singh (Co-optee), Sue Higgins (West Midlands), Mike Davey (London)

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Gail Adams (Head of Nursing); Robert Baughan (Health Group Assistant National Officer)

Action

1/02/09 INTRODUCTIONS

2/02/09 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Christine Wilde, Peter Atkinson, Surinder Gidda, Julie Biggs

3/02/09 MINUTES

To the minutes of the Nursing and Midwifery Sector meeting held on 21 October 2008 was agreed as an accurate record.

4/02/09 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising

5/02/09 NURSING CONSULTATIONS

The sector noted a report on the NMC Consultation on Knife Crime.

Objective 1: Recruitment, Organising and Representing Members

6/02/09 RECRUITMENT, RETENTION & ORGANISING

The Committee noted a report on the latest UNISON recruitment figures re nursing.

7/02/09 BUDGETS

The Committee noted a verbal report from Gail Adams and that the sector was overspent for 2008.

8/02/09 BARGAINING STRUCTURES - PROPOSALS FOR THE FUTURE

The Committee noted a report on the current structure review. It was noted that under the current proposals to be presented to 2009 National Delegate Conference, the Health Group Executive would remain responsible for determining the number and remit of sectors.

Objective 2: Negotiating and Bargaining on Behalf of Members

9/02/09 AGENDA FOR CHANGE

The Committee noted the decision by the Pay Review Body not to ask the government to revisit the current three year deal. This decision was supported by UNISON's Health Group Executive. The Committee also noted a report on on-call and annual leave.

10/02/09 HEALTH CONFERENCE 2009

Gail Adams

- a. Mick Mckeown and Christine Sullivan were nominated as the Nursing Sector delegates to the Health Conference.
- b. Nursing Sector agreed to submit amendments to motions 54 (Development of HCAs), 55 (Boom & burst of nursing workforce) and 64 (NHS Counter Fraud).
- c. Fringe/Focus events: Nursing members attending Health Conference were encouraged to attend the focus group on ISA and the fringe on community unionism.
- d. The Committee noted and accepted the decision by Standing Orders Committee to rule out of order the proposed motion on personal health budgets, on the basis that the issue is already covered elsewhere on the agenda.

11/02/09 STAFFING LEVELS

The Committee noted a verbal report by Mick Mckeown.

Objective 3: Campaigning and Promoting UNISON on Behalf of Members

12/02/09 NMC

- The Committee noted the NMC Code of Conduct Fact Sheet.
- The Committee noted a vernal report by Gail Adams on the on the current NMC work programme. It was reported that Kathy George had been appointed as acting Chief Executive.
- The Committee noted NMC consultation draft guidance for student nurses & midwives (See HC/07/09). UNISON will be submitting a response.

**Gail Adams /
Robert
Baughan /
Sector NMC
members**

13/02/09 NATIONAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Gail Adams

The Committee noted the following papers:

- Cross-border healthcare (Appendix 10)
- Sharps injuries (Appendix 11)
- Positively public briefing (Appendix 12)
- Transforming Community Services (Appendix 13) (DoH Publication)
- From Commissioning to contract evaluation (Appendix 14) (Joint union Publication to be tabled)

It also noted verbal reports on:

- ISA & House of Lords (Judgement & Poca Pova): The House of Lords has ruled that the Poca Pova listing is unlawful and a breach of human rights. The Committee noted the work of UNISON and of Helen Caulfield of the RCN.
- Pre-registration nursing: It was noted that Gail Adams has been appointed to the working group that will oversee the transition to an all-graduate profession.
- Bursary & Childcare: It was reported that the Department has deferred its decision on childcare support for nursing students. This will now form part of the NHS Bursary Review.
- NHS Professionals: It was reported that UNISON has been involved in initial discussions on the future of NHS Professionals

14/02/09 SUB GROUP PROFESSIONAL REPORTS

The Committee noted a verbal report on the mental health professional work programme.

15/02/09 PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY COVER

It was reported the fact sheet on Professional Indemnity would be ready for Health Group Conference.

**Robert
Baughan**

Objective 4: Developing an Efficient and Effective Union

16/02/09 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No other business to discuss.

Ann Moses

17/02/09 DATES OF NEXT MEETING AND FOR 2009

14 July (now moved to 16 July through Chair's action)

12 October

Ann Moses