



The Global Network of Public Health Nursing  
*A Network of public health nurses, health visitors and nursing colleagues working in Public Health*

Constitution

# Constitution of the Global Network of Public Health Nursing

Adopted on

(Day/Month/Year)

## 1. The name of the network shall be:

The Global Network of Public Health Nursing

## 2 Aims

To establish a Global Network of public health nurses, health visitors and community nurses working in Public Health with a focus on strengthening practice, policy, research, leadership and education in this specialized area of professional work in order to increase access to public health services across the lifespan for families, individuals and communities throughout the world.

### **Objectives**

- To raise the profile of public health nursing practice making this group of professionals more visible and thereby able to influence health policy locally, nationally and globally
- To develop public health nursing practice by sharing the experiences **and knowledge** of public health nurses, health visitors and others practitioners, educators, leaders and researchers in this area from around the world
- To use the knowledge of those countries with well developed public health nursing practice to support those without such a service so that they might develop their own public health care service
- To develop a shared definition of public health nursing practice that will be able to reflect the culture, professional traditions, social-economic climate and the policy of individual countries throughout the world.
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## 3 Powers

In order to achieve its aims and objectives the Network may;

- a) Raise money
- b) Open bank accounts
- c) Host a website
- d) Organise courses and events
- e) Work with other groups and exchange information
- f) Employ staff
- g) Apply for charity status
- h) Acquire and manage buildings

## 4 Membership

There will be three types of membership: Individual, Student and Associate membership. All members will have voting rights. Associates will have one vote per Institution

a) Individual membership is open to any registered nurse/health visitor working in public health.

b) Student membership is open to students who are undertaking qualification in public health nursing or health visiting.

c) Associate membership will be opened to colleges and organisations supporting nurse/health visitors working in public health

d) Country and Regional Chapters

The following Regional Chapters will be formed:

North America,  
South America  
Europe  
Africa  
Middle East  
Asia including India and China  
South East Asia/ Far East

Prior to the formation of Chapters members will be encourage to form State or Country Groups.

The State/Country groups and Regional Chapters will be autonomous

## 5 Friends of the Network and Donors

a) Individuals and other health professionals wishing to support the work of the Network may join as a friend. Friends will have access to the Network discussion forums, information sharing and conferences but will **not** have voting rights

b) The Committee will agree the level of involvement and access for Donors on individual basis. All Donors will be acknowledged on the website.

## 6 Management

a) The Steering group will step down in 2016 at the next Formal meeting of the Network and be replaced by a Committee.

(There will be a need to develop a plan to ensure that a smooth transition takes place and to ensure continuity until the rotation of members standing down becomes established)

- b) A Committee of a maximum of 9 members shall administer the Network. Regional Chapters will nominate a member who will be endorsed at the Formal meeting of the Network. (In the transition period the Committee may elect members to bring the membership to nine ensuring that the Regions in active membership are represented.)
- c) One member of the committee **must** come from the current host country and one from the next host country of the International Conference
- d) The Committee will be responsible for the Governance of the Network developing appropriate policies
- e) The Formal meeting of the Network will take place every two years at the time of the International Conference.
- f) The Committee will convene at least three times a year
- g) The members of the committee will elect a Chairperson and other officers as appropriate
- h) A third of the Committee will stand down every two years. No member may serve more than six years on the committee (three cycles of the International Conference)
- i) Attendance by 50% of committee members will provide a quorum

## 7 Finance

- a) The fiscal year of the Network shall begin on the 1<sup>st</sup> January and end on the 31<sup>st</sup> December.
- b) The Committee shall be responsible for preparing the annual financial statements and presenting them to the membership for approval.
- c) Any money obtained by the Network may only be used to achieve the aims and objectives of the Network.
- d) Bank accounts opened must be in the name of the Network
- e) The Committee will adhere to the financial policy at all times

## 8 Formal meeting

1) Once every two years concurrently with the International Conference a Formal meeting will be held. The purpose of this meeting will be:

- a) To receive reports from the Chairperson and Treasurer

- b) To agreed the next host country for the International Conference
- c) To endorse new members to the Committee from each Regional Chapter
- d) To agree the on going work plan for the Network for the next two years
- e) To record Regional Chapters as they are formed

## 2) Notice

Members will be given a minimum of three months notice of the Formal meeting.

## 3) Motions

- a) Members may submit motions to be discussed at the Formal meeting.
- b) All motions must be sent to the Chairperson at least two calendar months before the Formal meeting.
- c) Motions must be support by at least **three countries**
- d) All members who have paid their subscription will be eligible to vote

## 9 Alterations to the Constitution

- Any changes to this Constitution must be agreed by at least two thirds of those members present and voting at the Formal meeting

## 10 Dissolution

The Network may be dissolved at any time if agreed by two-thirds of those members present and voting at the Formal meeting. In the event of dissolution any assets remaining after all debts have been paid shall be given to another Network/Group with the similar aims/objectives.

This constitution was adopted at the Formal meeting of the Network on

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### **Signed by**

Committee Chairperson

Foundation members