

NMC Midwifery Panel Terms of Reference

Remit

- 1 The purpose of the Midwifery Panel is to provide the NMC with authoritative high-level advice about midwifery and maternity issues to enhance the NMC's primary role of protecting the public, including:
 - 1.1 advice on changes in statutory regulation and the effectiveness of the transition to new arrangements.
 - 1.2 strategic input into policy or regulatory proposals affecting midwifery, or maternity services, or satisfies itself that such input has been secured.
 - 1.3 overseeing progress and providing assurance on the delivery of the future midwife education standards and standards of proficiency.
- 2 To provide a forum for invited leading midwifery and lay figures to exchange information and intelligence; and for the development of strategic thinking on all aspects of the future approach to midwifery regulation.
- 3 The Panel has no decision-making powers.

Membership

- 4 The membership of the Panel will include expertise from the midwifery community, professional leaders, and lay input.
- 5 The current membership of the Panel includes:
 - Independent Chair
 - Anne Wright, NMC Council member
 - Lorna Tinsley, NMC Council member
 - Key NMC directors and advisers
 - Chief Nursing Officers from the four countries of the UK, or their representatives
 - Senior midwives situated in government, or equivalent, from the four countries of the UK, or their representatives
 - Representatives from NHS England, and the Royal College of Midwives
 - Senior midwifery academics
 - Lay members

Mode of Working

- 6 Formal meetings of the Panel will normally take place on a quarterly basis.
- 7 In addition to its regular meetings, Panel members may be called upon to provide input individually or in small groups.

- 8 Members will receive regular email updates on midwifery developments from an NMC perspective.
- 9 Discussions at the Panel will be reflected in the standing item on midwifery matters on the Council's agenda.