

New NHS Alliance Constitution – agreed 13 July 2016

1. The name of the organisation is the New NHS Alliance.

2. Purpose

The purpose of the **New NHS Alliance** is to:

- a) Promote and represent the interests of members, patients and citizens in the development and implementation of health policy to Department of Health, Government and other appropriate bodies.
- b) To develop and promote policy and practice for wider discussion and implementation.
- c) To provide opportunities for member experience to be shared and for mutual support to be available.

The organisation will achieve this by:

- Developing and maintaining contact with key decision makers and influencers
- Developing and maintaining constructive relationships with other appropriate organisations
- Arranging and supporting conferences, seminars and meetings
- Fostering, developing and maintaining networks reflecting specific interests and professional groups
- Publishing and disseminating research, discussion documents, policy statements, articles and blogs
- Supporting and disseminating good practice in health improvement and health care
- Supporting organisations to adopt new practices and ways of working
- Maintaining a proactive external relations programme
- Developing a followership on social media
- Any other activities considered by the National Executive to be appropriate and consistent with the purpose of the New NHS Alliance

3. Membership

- a. Membership of the organisation shall be open to such individuals and organisations as recommended by the National Executive and approved by an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting.
- b. Such members will have the rights and benefits as recommended by the National Executive and approved by an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting.
- c. The honorary officers shall have the right to refuse or terminate membership at their absolute discretion should they consider that new or ongoing membership would be counter to the interests of the organisation.

- d. Refusal or termination of membership shall be subject to a right of appeal to be heard and determined by three members of the National Executive not involved in the original decision. The decision of this group shall be final.

4. Subscriptions

Members of the organisation shall pay an annual subscription as recommended by the National Executive and approved by an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting.

5. Meetings

- a. There shall be an Annual General Meeting held in each calendar year normally to be held not later than the date of any annual conference.
- b. An Extraordinary General Meeting will be called by the Secretary following the written request to the Secretary of at least thirty five member votes or at the discretion of the National Executive.
- c. Annual and Extraordinary General Meetings (to be known as “National General Meetings” shall be chaired by the organisation’s Chair, Vice Chair, member of the National Executive or any other member as those present may agree upon.
- d. Motions for National General Meetings must be relevant to the affairs of the Organisation and must be proposed by one voting member and seconded by at least one other voting member of the Organisation.
- e. Notice of a National General Meeting will be given to all members at least six weeks before the meeting. Motions should be sent to the Secretary at least four weeks before the meeting and shall be sent to members not less than one week before the meeting.
- f. Only those members identified as having voting rights in the schedule of member benefits and rights, and are present, may vote at National General Meetings.
- g. Resolutions shall be made by a simple majority of eligible voting members present at the meeting, save for changes to the constitution, which must be supported by two thirds of voting members present at the meeting.

6. National Executive

- a. There shall be a National Executive comprising of twelve members elected at the Annual General Meeting. The National Executive elected members shall be able to co-opt additional members to the EC. Co-opted members will not be able to vote at EC meetings.

- b. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for implementing the policies of the Organisation and deciding on policy matters between National General Meetings.
- c. The National Executive shall produce a written report to each General Meeting.

7. Quorum at meetings

- a. For a National General Meeting a quorum shall require at least 20 voting members or 10% of voting members to be present, whichever is the smaller.
- b. For a National Executive Meeting a quorum shall require five members to be present.

8. Appointment of Honorary Officers

At its first meeting following election at the Annual General Meeting, the National Executive shall appoint from amongst their number the following honorary officers:

- i. A Chair or Co-Chairs
- ii. A Vice Chair or Chairs
- iii. A Secretary
- iv. A Treasurer
- v. Any other officer considered appropriate by the National Executive

9. Accounts

- a. The Organisation will hold all money in its bank account(s), save for small amounts of petty cash as may be determined by the Treasurer.
- b. Signatories for payment online or by bank cheques shall be any two honorary officers or paid officers of the organisation as approved by the Treasurer.
- c. The Treasurer shall be responsible for ensuring that the annual accounts of the organisation are prepared and that a statement is presented to the Annual General Meeting or at such other times as requested by the National Executive.
- d. The annual accounts shall be professionally and externally examined and a report shall be made to each Annual General Meeting.
- e. The financial year of the organisation shall normally be April to March or such other period as determined by the National Executive and reported to the Annual General Meeting.

- f. If upon winding up or dissolution of the Organisation there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be distributed among members of the organisation but shall be given or transferred to some other institution or institutions, the objects of which relate principally to Out of Hospital Care, and whose objects also prohibit the distribution of it's or their income amongst it's or their members. Such institutions to be determined by the members of the organisation at or before the time of the dissolution.