



## MHNA NPC Elections 2008



Elections to all 10 regional seats on the MHNA's National Professional Committee (NPC) are now open, with this letter inviting nominations to that body.

The NPC is responsible for managing and directing the professional agenda for the Association and leading on professional policy and practice issues.

Nominations are invited from fully paid-up members of the Association to represent their Unite region, the term of office for each representative being two years.

The 10 regions are:

Scotland, Ireland, Wales, North West, Northern & Yorkshire/Humberside, West Midlands, East Midlands, London & Eastern, South West and South East. A map showing the regions is shown to the right.

(London & Eastern is a recent amalgamation of two district regions, as is Northern & Yorkshire/Humberside)



As the NPC is a relatively new body, much of its' initial work has been to determine how it should work most effectively to deliver the professional mental health nursing agenda for the Association's members. It has also been examining the future work and role of the Association and setting priorities for action. Information on meetings and how the NPC works are detailed on page 2.

Should only one nomination be received in a region, that nominee will be elected unopposed. However, if two or more nominations are received in any region, a postal ballot of all MHNA members in that region will be undertaken. To assist members to make the most informed decision on whom they may elect in that ballot, nominees are requested to supply a brief statement (200 words maximum) of their reasons for standing for election and what they would be able to offer the membership in their region.

It is expected that any postal ballot will be undertaken during the months of February and March 2008. The results of these elections, and the membership of the new NPC, will be confirmed by the beginning of April 2008.

**The closing date for nominations in the 29th of February 2008.**

**If you wish to be nominated for your region, please complete the form overleaf and post it to:**

**MHNA Elections, Cals Meyn, Grove Lane, Hinton, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN14 8HF.**

If you have any queries about the process of nomination, or wish to know more about the role of regional representatives on the NPC, please contact Brian Rogers, MHNA Professional Officer, on 07918 630403 or by email on [brian.rogers@unitetheunion.org](mailto:brian.rogers@unitetheunion.org).



## MHNA's National Professional Committee within the Unite Health Sector

1. MHNA is identified within the Unite Health Sector structure as one of seven Groups and Associations. The other six include the Community Practitioners and Health Visitors Association (CPHVA), The Guild of Healthcare Pharmacists (GHP), the College of Health Care Chaplains (CHCC), The Health Physicists Association (HPA), the Medical Practitioners Union (MPU) and Sexual Health Advisors Society (SHAS).
2. For internal purposes the governing body of MHNA is the National Professional Committee (NPC).
3. MHNA has now fully adopted the new NPC structure, elections for all NPC regional seats in the autumn of 2007, the new NPC meeting in 2008.
4. The MHNA NPC's membership is comprised of 10 regional representatives, plus any other representatives who are co-opted to the NPC with specific national roles. The regions are: Scotland; Wales; Northern Ireland; North West; Yorkshire, Humberside & North East; East Midlands; West Midlands; London & Eastern; Southern and South West.
5. Regional representatives may be chosen either by nomination from a region, or in the case of more than one nomination, by election that will be centrally managed by Unite.
6. In the event a region does not have an elected representative the NPC may 'Co-Opt' a member to represent that region. The number of co-opted members needs to be reasonable and certainly not exceed the number of elected representatives.
7. Elected members of the NPC will elect the Chair at the first meeting of every new committee.
8. Should the elected Chair feel unable to also undertake the duties of regional representative, a second person may be elected/co-opted to represent the region.
9. An 'alternate' may also be identified within each region, to attend meetings when the elected or co-opted representative is unable to do so.
10. Where elected members resign before the end of their term of office they will be replaced through the process of 'Co-Option' by the NPC unless there is less than six months of their term left to run.
11. MHNA may continue to have a President and up to two Vice Presidents and they will sit in an advisory capacity to the NPC.
12. The President and Vice Presidents may be nominated by members for consideration by the NPC or chosen by the NPC.
13. The Normal term of office will be two years for the NPC, President and Vice Presidents.
14. The Chair and President will sit for no longer than two consecutive terms (four years).
15. Time and task-limited groups may be formed by the NPC to undertake projects and tasks as identified by the NPC and the MHNA's membership. These will be democratically and financially supported as described in the consultation document.
16. Members attending any of the above authorised and agreed meetings will be able to claim expenses in accordance with Unite rules.
17. The NPC will normally meet for 4 one-day meetings per year or one two-day meeting (including an overnight stay) plus two one-day meetings.
18. The NPC may convene other meetings as required as described by Unite.
19. MHNA will continue to be supported by a team of professional officers
20. Unite will financially support the professional activity of MHNA, including support for regional group meetings and study days.
21. Unite Health Sector recognises the significance of the MHNA web site to its members and the greater arena of mental health
22. Unite Health Sector will support the Association's Journal; 'Mental Health Nursing', and accepts the very real role that the publication plays in recruitment of new members and raising the profile of the mental health nursing profession.
23. In addition to any funding from Unite MHNA will seek out external sponsorship in support of MHNA professional activities as appropriate.
24. NPC members, including co-opted members, will become accredited Unite representatives and therefore benefit from facilities agreements for elected union representatives.

### **National Professional Committee Co-ordinating Group – NPCCG**

1 Each of the seven groups and associations identified above, including MHNA, will be represented by their Chairs at the NPCCG, devised to determine the common professional practice and policy development agenda of the Unite Health Sector.

2 The committee meets twice a year.

## Nominations Form for MHNA NPC Elections 2008

Please note: Nominations received without an accompanying supporting statement (see left) from the nominee will not be accepted.

I, being a fully paid-up member of MHNA, consent to be nominated to serve, if elected, as the Regional Representative for the  region of Unite / MHNA

Name	<input type="text"/>
Membership Number	<input type="text"/>
Amicus-MHNA Region	<input type="text"/>
Address	<input type="text"/>
Employer	<input type="text"/>
Telephone	<input type="text"/>
email	<input type="text"/>
Date	<input type="text"/>
Signature	<input type="text"/>

All nominations must be supported by another fully paid-up MHNA member:

I, being a fully paid-up member of MHNA, support the nomination of the above to serve as Regional Representative for the  region of Unite / MHNA

Name	<input type="text"/>
Membership Number	<input type="text"/>
Amicus-MHNA Region	<input type="text"/>
Date	<input type="text"/>
Signature	<input type="text"/>

