Actions taken by the CPHVA concerning the Review of the Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting Act of 1979 and its results

Introduction

This report itemises in chronological order actions taken in consultation with and on behalf of our members since 1992 and, in particular since rumours around the review came to the attention of the CPHVA in June 1997. A complete set of documentation concerning these actions is available for examination in the director’s office if any interested party wishes to look at it, and this would have to be undertaken at CPHVA headquarters at 40 Bermondsey Street. However, many of these documents are already in the public domain.

January 1992

The Health Visitors’ response to the UKCC proposals for the future of community education and practice. This makes important policy statements about the Association’s views on health visiting as part of the family of community nursing.

1. Introduction

1.1 The following presents the response of the Health Visitors’ Association to the United Kingdom Central Council for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting “Report on Proposals for the future of Community Education and Practice”. This paper has been compiled from the discussions of a working group representing field workers, community practice teachers, managers and educationalists and from the comments returned from members through their centres and special interest groups.

6. The title “community health care nurse” is acceptable as an umbrella term, but a clearer definition is required. Overwhelmingly our members wish to retain the titles ‘health visitor’ and ‘school nurse’. We believe health visiting, school
nursing etc. should be added in brackets to the generic title in order to define specific areas of practice.

June 1997

Dinner held for ex chairs, current chair, Vice Chairs, vice president, Andy Andrews, Ruth Hudson and Jackie Carnell to gauge views about the future of health visiting regulation.

July 1997

Briefing paper to professional officers and Roger Kline in preparation of the review of the Act from Jackie Carnell [JC]. Irene Walters commissioned to collate initial evidence to make the case for continued health visiting registration.
12th July - First discussion with CPHVA Executive Committee.

August 1997

Official confirmation received from the Department of Health that the review would be carried out by JM Consulting Ltd.
29th August - Letter received from JM Consulting asking for a meeting. Copied to chair.

September 1997

10th September - CPHVA Education Sub Committee met to compile information for JM Consulting’s meeting with the CPHVA.
13th September - CPHVA Executive Committee meeting. Report given as to who were undertaking the report and what actions were already underway.
Paper received from Irene Walters.
Late September - Preliminary meeting with Jim Port.

October 1997

Green pages out to centres for the November Executive Committee meeting informing the centres of the timescale of the review.
November 1997

17th November - Submission from CPHVA sent to JM Consulting.
19th November - Letter received from JM Consulting to say they had received the submission.

December 1997

Green pages sent to centres with copy of the submission and also a copy of the UKCC submission.

January 1998

Consultation paper received from JM Consulting on the regulation of Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors.
9th January - Press release sent out on consultation document.
10th January - CPHVA Executive Committee - full discussion as to how to handle our response. The Executive Committee agreed to:

- Write to every member with a briefing on the issues around the consultation
- Column to be written in Journal around health visiting as part of nursing or not
- A copy of the briefing and the consultation document would be sent to every LAR and centre asking for responses by 12th February
- The director was to write to JM Consulting asking for an extension to the deadline for responses so that our final response could be considered and agreed by the CPHVA Executive Committee at the meeting on 7th March.

14th January - Teleconference held with ex chairs and professional officers and the chair to discuss letter and briefing.
15th January - Letter sent out to every member and briefing sent out to LARs and centres.
20th January - Meeting held with some members following meeting to discuss NHS White Paper.
February 1998

Article appears in Journal as planned.
Extension received by JM Consulting by ‘phone.
CPHVA Green Pages to centres contains reminder to respond and thanks to those who already had done so.
13th February - Initial look at responses by chair, vice chairs, professional officers and director.

March 1998

7th March - CPHVA response unanimously agreed by CPHVA. Executive Committee with agreed minor amendments [Yes to Health Visitors being part of nursing 80 per cent]. The two major recommendations were that:

1. Any change to the register must continue to protect the public by ensuring that the health visiting qualification remains mandatory and registered

2. That the register should allow for the registration of all specialist community practitioners and their qualifications should also be mandatory for practice.

Also agreed, was the paper written by Dr Pauline Pearson to accompany our response outlining reasons that all specialist community practitioners should be regulated.

11th March - CPHVA response sent to JM Consulting.
17th March - CPHVA response sent to centres and informing them that a campaign around our two major recommendations would follow.
27th March - Meeting held at 50 Southwark Street to agree campaign plan.

April 1998

Jackie Carnell spoke at a conference at Royal College of Surgeons in London on our recommendations.
15th April - Appointment with Minister Susan Haymer - who was responsible for Nurse Regulation – and Jackie Carnell.
May 1998

Report to CPHVA Executive Committee on campaign meeting and further dissemination of the report.

July 1998

4th July - CPHVA Executive Committee were informed of a lobby of parliament to be held the following week.  
9th July - Lobby of Parliament.

September 1998

Meeting Tessa Jowell - Public Health Minister.

October 1998

Survey Tina Durdle - again 80 per cent of health visitors feel it essential that health visiting is a nursing-based profession.

November 1998

7th to 8th November - CPHVA Executive Committee - Report given that the JM Consulting report was now before Ministers and that it was important to keep up the pressure.

December 1998

Green pages out to centres for January 1999 Executive Committee meeting urging centres to continue lobbying their MPs.

January 1999

16th January - CPHVA Executive Committee meeting report saying no sign of Minister’s response and discussion around the new proposed order making powers for the Secretary of State.  
28th January – Meeting with Baroness Hayman and a senior lay representative where the necessity for the continued regulation of health visitors was raised.
February 1999

8th February - JM Consulting’s recommendations published and also the Minister’s response.

March 1999

6th March - CPHVA Executive Committee. Pleased at the retention of health visiting registration but sorry that the other community practitioners had not been similarly recognised.

April 1999

Green pages out to centres for the May Executive Committee meeting contain a copy of the CPHVA’s response to the Minister’s response.

May 1999

22nd May - CPHVA Executive Committee informed that Heather Livesey was preparing a briefing for centres on the proposals for the new Council.

June 1999

Briefing on the proposed new Council sent to centres. Green pages for Executive Committee on 17th July emphasises the briefing as a tool for further campaigning.

July 1999

17th July - CPHVA Executive Committee. Briefing well received and it was agreed that it should be sent to UKCC, DOH and others.

August 1999

Heather Livesey would be our representative on the Reference Group for the formation of the new Council.
November 1999

5th - 7th November - CPHVA Executive Committee informed of Heather’s place on the Reference Group.
17th November - Meeting with Lord Hunt and Roger Kline to reinforce importance of regulation for health visitors.

February 2000

8th February - Meeting with Sarah Mullally, Chief Nursing Officer (CNO) and Jackie Carnell. Suggestion made that health visitors do not need places on Council. Firmly resisted and CNO agrees to ensure places remain.

March 2000

Meeting with Claire Perry, now project manager for the change process and Jackie Carnell.
14th March - CPHVA Executive Committee informed of meeting and of meeting with CNO.

April 2000

Green Pages out to centres for May meeting. Centres told of imminent publication of the consultation paper on the draft proposals for the new council and warned that the title of the new council was likely not to include the term Health Visiting.
Telephone call received from Lord Hunt’s office explaining that the Minister’s response made no mention of the name of the new council being different from that recommended by JM Consulting.

May 2000

20th May CPHVA - Executive Committee meeting - concern expressed to Executive Committee about the title of the new council and the fact that the reference group had not yet met.

August 2000

Consultation document, Modernising Regulation - the new Nursing and Midwifery Council out for consultation.
September 2000

9th September - CPHVA Executive Committee reminded to send comments re. the new council to Jackie Carnell as soon as possible. Green Pages sent to centres for November meeting and reminding them to send comments on the Modernising Regulation document to the director’s office.

October 2000

16th October - CPHVA response sent to Department of Health.

November 2000

3rd - 5th November - CPHVA Executive Committee campaigning for the continued regulation of health visitors as a priority for 2001.

January 2001

Request from Department of Health for nominations for health visitor members of the new council and their alternates received. 13th January - CPHVA Executive Committee discussion as to how to conduct the nomination process. 8th February Letter sent to all CPHVA committee members inviting them to submit CVs for consideration by Executive Committee.

February 2001

8th February - Nominations submitted to the Department of Health.

March 2001

Report to Executive Committee that members of new council had not yet been announced.

April 2001

Document establishing the new Nursing and Midwifery Council received. Overview sent to Executive Committee and information placed on CPHVA website.
Green Pages sent to centres for the May CPHVA Executive Committee meeting drawing their attention to the document and pointing out the major omissions.

**May 2001**

Newsletter sent to Scottish members by the Scottish professional officer informing them of the document establishing the new Nursing and Midwifery Council and inviting them to attend a meeting with Maureen Williams of the UKCC to debate the matter.

Meeting held in Glasgow for Scottish members with Maureen Williams. Only ten members attended.

8th May - Meeting with Yvette Cooper with chair and director to discuss health visiting.

8th May - Meeting with members of Executive Committee and others chaired by CPHVA chair to discuss draft legislation.

18th May - CPHVA Executive Committee agreed letter from chair and director to go out to every member urging them to lobby DOH, MPs, UKCC and New Council about rewording draft legislation to ensure the continuation of health visitor places on the new council. Draft CPHVA response agreed but request made and accepted that it should reflect more clearly the letter to members.

21st May - Letter sent.

24th May - Presentation to new council by JC.

Green pages sent to centres for July Executive Committee. Centres urged to reinforce the message sent out in the letters to members by asking centres to write to their local MPs `on a collective basis.

25th May - Meeting with Sarah Mullally, Chief Nursing Officer.

31st May - Vice presidents and president lunch at CPHVA. All fully briefed by chair and director on the omissions in the draft regulations.

**June 2001**

Letters sent to Scottish MSPs from the CPHVA Scottish Executive Committee.

1st June - Meeting with Jackie Carnell and Jonathan Asbridge re. new council regulation.
5th June - Meeting between Jackie Carnell, David Moore, Assistant Chief Nursing Officer and Ros Mead, Head of Non Medical Regulation.
21st June meeting with Jackie Carnell and Michael Proctor Nursing Officer at Scottish Office.
28th June - CPHVA response to consultation on New Council legislation sent to DOH.
28th June responses sent to:

David Baglow – National Assembly for Wales
David Killen – DOH, Social Services & Public Safety for N.I.
Bob McFarlane – Scottish Executive Health Department
Ros Mead – NMC Consultation – DOH – Quarry House
Yvette Cooper – Parliamentary Under Sec of State of Public Health – Richmond Hse
Bairbre de Bruin – Minister of Health N.I.
Susan Deacon – Minister for Health – Scottish Executive
Judith Hill – CNO – Northern Ireland
Jane Hutty – Minister for Health – Welsh Office
John Hutton – Minister of State for Health – Richmond House
Anne Jarvie – CNO -Scotland
Rosemary Kennedy – CNO – Wales
Rt Hon Alan Milburn – Secretary of State for Health
Sarah Mullally – CNO – England

Andrew Andrews – Vice President CPHVA
Dr Martin Bax – Vice President CPHVA
Baroness May Blood – Vice President CPHVA
Professor Neville Butler – Vice President CPHVA
Christopher Cloke – Vice President CPHVA
Donna Covey – Association of Community Health Councils
Dr Michael Dixon – Chair NHS Alliance
Eileen Hutton – Vice President CPHVA
Dr David Kerr – Vice President CPHVA
The Countess of Limerick – President CPHVA
John Nicholson – Chief Executive UKPHA
Alison Norman – Vice President CPHVA
Richard Parrish – Chief Executive HAD
Dr W H Parry – Vice President CPHVA
Dr Malcolm Rigler – Vice President CPHVA

All CPHVA Staff
All Members of CPHVA Executive Committee
All MSF Regional Lead Officers
Roger Spiller
Margaret Wall
29th June – Response sent to: Dr Maggie Voysey Paun – Political Assistant to Helen Brinton, MP for Peterborough.

July 2001

4th 5th 6th July - Further responses sent to:
Jonathan Asbridge – President NMC - UKCC
Dr Carolyn Mason – Nursing Officer Belfast
Michael Proctor – Directorate of Primary Care – Scottish Executive

Health Visiting Registrant Members

Marianne Cowpe Wales
Bronya Webster England
Ishbel White Scotland
Fiona Wright Northern Ireland
Mary Hanratty Northern Ireland Nursing Registrant Member

Alternate Health Visiting Registrant Members

Ann Gow Scotland
Maureen Jamison Northern Ireland
Heather Livesey England
Angela Roberts Wales

5th July - MSF Lead NHS officers fully briefed on problems with draft regulations.
7th July - CPHVA Executive Committee agreed CPHVA response.
12th July - Margaret Wall was fully briefed who in turn briefed MSF MPs.
19th July – Jackie Carnell meeting with John Hutton to raise concerns re. draft regulation.

August 2001

Letter sent to all Scottish CPHVA members detailing actions undertaken on their behalf around the issue of regulation.

Copy of information sheet received from John Hutton’s office.

September 2001

7th September - Briefing paper on the draft legislation received from Ros Mead, head of non-medical legislation.
15th September - Reserve Executive Committee to plan Open Forum with representatives from centres.
27th September – Pauline Pearson, CPHVA chair, and Jackie Carnell, met with Alan Milburn, Secretary of State for Health, as part of a small MSF NHS delegation. Briefing paper provided. Secretary of State for Health confirmed that there is no way that the title of the council will change, but would support the move for further clarity in the legislation to ensure the continuation of existing arrangements beyond 2004.

Coverage in the journal of Review of Act and subsequent stages towards new regulation

NMC
- Oct 99, p330-332, Building a new regulatory body, professional briefing
- Aug 2001, p283, Roger Spiller interview
- Jul 2001, p240 & 245, editorial re NMC
- Jun 2001, p205, News snippet, re. Senate mayday campaign
- May 2001, p165, JC comments on NMC name.
- Sep 2000, p739, `no name no logic`, JC on NMC name.
- J M Consulting
- Oct 1999, p330-332, Building a new regulatory body, professional briefing
- Mar 1999, p39-41, Gov't response to JM consulting report, news feature
- Dec 1998, p390, review decision still on hold
- Oct 1998, p316, rumours re. end of separate registration
- Jun 1998, p198, UKSC defends separate HV registration
- May 1998, p160, need to retain separate HV registration
- Feb 1998, p41, review of N, M & HV Act

Review of Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors Act, 1997
- Oct 1999, p330-332, Building a new regulatory body, professional briefing
- Mar 1999, p39-41, Gov't response to JM consulting report, news feature
- Dec 1998, p390, review decision still on hold
- Oct 1998, p316, rumours re. end of separate registration
- Jun 1998, p198, UKSC defends separate HV registration
- May 1998, p160, need to retain separate HV registration
- Apr 1998, p122, HV qualification must remain mandatory - CPHVA response to review.
- Feb 1998, p41, review of N, M & HV Act

JEC/SH/28/9/01 – Policy Trail2