

ABM University Health Board	
Date of Meeting: 20th January 2020 Name of Meeting: Nursing Midwifery Board Agenda item:10.1	
Subject	<i>Update on Professional Issues & open Nursing Midwifery referrals</i>
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Presented by	Helen Griffiths Corporate Head of Nursing

1.0 Situation

The Nursing & Midwifery Council (NMC) exists to safeguard the health and well being of people using or needing the services of nurses and midwives. The NMC has two unique functions that ensure people receive high quality and safe care from nurses and midwives; these are Registration, and Fitness to Practice. The paper will outline the current Health Board's position on a number of professional issues which includes the following;

- A status report on all open Nursing & Midwifery referrals across the Health Board.
- A status report on Registration lapses due to Revalidation or Fee Paying issues over the past twelve months.
- A Status report on any Registered Nurse & Health Care Support Worker suspensions.

2.0 Background

The health board continues to maintain a central database of all nursing & midwifery referrals, and reports regular updates to the Nursing & Midwifery Board.

Revalidation & Registration for nurses & midwives is also, monitored on a central database via the ESR system. Any lapses are reported into Nursing & Midwifery Board as an SBAR, which supports any sharing of learning.

3.0 Assessment

3.1 Current Status on Open Nursing Midwifery Council Referrals

The health board has a total of fifteen open referrals, as well as one bank nurse and one referral that involves an Agency Nurse whilst working in the health board.

Three Registrants out of the fifteen remain employed within the health board.

Open Cases

In relation to the cases that are open there are;

- Six that have had a substantive hearing with either conditions of practice in place or a suspension order in place.
- Seven registrants are at case investigation stage
- Four registrants are at screening stage.

Themes of Referrals

On review of themes in relation to Professional issues alcohol related issues cover a large number of the referrals, a few of these have been closed at screening. Documentation and competence, care issues, and also we have had two cases recently in relation to revalidation around honesty and integrity.

3.2 Suspensions

At present across the health board there are the following suspensions

- Three band five Registered Nurses
- Two Health Care Support Workers (Band 2&3)

There are also a number of Registered nurses and Health Care Support Workers that are working in non-clinical roles due to ongoing Disciplinary investigations.

3.3 Revalidation & Registration

Revalidation and Registration is a professional requirement of every registered nurse or midwife. The Revalidation & Registration policy sets out the legal and contractual requirements for all individuals employed as a registered nurse or midwife to be revalidated and registered with the Nursing & Midwifery Council. The policy sets out a framework to ensure that effective systems are in place within the health board to verify the revalidation and registration status of all staff employed as nurses or midwives. Both the individual practitioner and the health board have a responsibility to ensure that individuals practicing as a registered nurse or midwife has a live registration status. The information below clearly outlines the number of lapsed registrations within the health board over the last 12 months. In summary there were a total of 11 lapsed registrations across the health board. Please see below for a breakdown.

There have been the following revalidation and fee paying lapses over the last six months;

February 2019

NPT	1 fee paying lapse
Primary & Community Care	1 Revalidation (expected) & 1 fee paying lapse
Mental Health & LD	1 Revalidation & Registration
Total	4

March 2019

Morrison	1 fee paying lapse
Total	1

April 2019

Singleton	1 Revalidation
Total	1

May 2019

Mental Health & LD	1 Fee paying lapse
Morrison	1 fee paying lapse
Singleton	1 fee paying lapse
Total	3 lapses

June 2019

Morrison	1 fee paying
Total	1

July 2019

Total	None
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August 2019

Total	None
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September 2019

Maternity	3 Fee paying lapses
Total	3

October 2019

Total	None
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November 2019

Singleton	1 Fee paying lapse
Total	1

December 2019

Total	None
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Following any lapse the Service Delivery Unit completes an investigation in line with the Revalidation & Registration policy (2016). An update is then provided as part of an SBAR report to Nursing Midwifery Board this supports sharing of learning around any themes.

Predominantly the revalidation lapses were not surprises and had been well supported by the Delivery Units. There are also three concerns that have been raised around the Revalidation process of which two have been reported to the NMC who are looking into both matters.

Direct Debit payments and changes with Bank accounts are a key theme from the payment lapses .

4 Recommendations

The Nursing & Midwifery Board is asked to:

- Note the current position and information.
- Continue with the monitoring arrangements in place.
- Continue to work within the current health board policies.