

POLICY REMIT Six: RECEIVED FROM Nurse Managers Section

Policy Remit – Title: NZNO Member Access to Agendas and Minutes from NZNO Board Meetings.

Policy Remit – Recommendation: That the NZNO Board meetings agendas and minutes be made available to the membership.

Rationale:

1. Board members are elected to ensure resources are used to carry out the mission of the NZNO. Board meeting minutes should be made available in the interests of transparency and engagement.
2. Official board minutes should be open for inspection. Board agendas should be strategically structured around decision-making in a way that facilitates efficient, effective and engaging meetings. Accurate minutes should be made available to the membership, as they are a formal record reflecting board activities and actions.
3. The board speaks with one public voice thus should be open to inspection by members.
4. Most of what the board discusses is the governance of the organisation that needs the trust of its members. Disclosure of meeting minutes is one way of demonstrating accountability.
5. Board minutes are evidence that agenda items are given due consideration and action.
6. Allowing access to board meeting agendas and minutes will increase member engagement / knowledge.
7. Access to board minutes will allow the membership to have an awareness of board discussions and actions.
8. Access to board minutes is a simple action to implement and generally often only has implications for board members.
9. Support for our colleagues who do have an interest in reading the meeting minutes.
10. Ultimately the membership needs to look at the organisation values system, culture and the relationship it has with its constituents. The membership needs to consider, reflect and make a decision about how much transparency they are content with being offered. Are you happy with the status quo?