



THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Registered Nursing Home Association includes a wide range of benefits for the nursing home owner. Often, members forget what is available as part of their membership package, this article sets out to remind members of the various benefits available to them;

Membership benefits can be grouped under five distinct headings as follow;

Organisation Network (I.C.O.N.) and the European Confederation of Home Owners (E.C.H.O.)

Lobbying and Representation at national level including dialogue with:

- Government
- Opposition Parties
- Civil Servants in various Government Departments
- National patient representative organisations such as Age Concern, Alzheimer's Association, Patients and Relatives Associations, etc.
- National professional organisations such as the Royal College of Nursing, British Geriatrics Society, Royal College of Physicians, etc.
- Representation on national advisory bodies and steering groups, including the Health and Safety Executive, British Standards Committees, etc.
- Membership of National and European bodies, including Independent Care

Support and Representation at local level

- Branch structure throughout the United Kingdom giving local support and advice and a linking facility to head office facilities
- Dialogue with local authorities, district health authorities, social services departments and health commissioning bodies
- Dialogue with regional training initiatives
- Support at local meetings from head office staff, including representation at meetings with the Commission for Social Care Inspection (C.S.C.I.) over inspection matters, or with local authorities over funding matters
- Local conferences and branch meetings
- National, regional and local study days

Professional and Business Advice

- Legal advice on all aspects of nursing home care and management from a panel of four specialist solicitors in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales
- Interpretation of the relevant law which applies to nursing home care from our legal advisors and from head office staff
- Dedicated employment law advice from solicitors
- Head Office Disclosure Service for Criminal Records Bureau enquiries
- Health & Safety advice from National Britannia Responseline.
- All aspects of business management from our head office advice line
- Professional advice on all aspects of nursing care from head office
- Financial management advice from

leading accountants, via our partnership agreements

- Advice on staffing levels, pay and conditions
- Marketing advice, including discounted rates with Yellow Pages giving a Blue Cross block entry at lineage rates

Advice Manuals, Stationery and Circulations

- A range of free advice manuals, including
 - Business Management Manual
 - Nursing Management Manual
 - Care Assistant Training Manual and Progress Records for Care Assistants
- Range of pre-printed stationery at competitive prices
- Quality Assurance system - Blue Cross Mark of Excellence
- Monthly Care Standards Updates on issues affecting nursing home care
- Bi-monthly Nursing Home News magazine
- Circulation of all major consultations documents as they are received at head office

Financial Benefits of Membership

- Blue Cross Nursing Home Insurance scheme offering bespoke cover at discounted rates
- Blue Cross Purchasing Partnership; food, milk, uniforms and a variety of other products available to members at heavily discounted prices
- Blue Cross Stakeholder Pensions, a proven scheme backed by Scottish Widows, free of charge to all members
- Blue Cross Energy, major savings on gas and electricity bills
- Blue Cross Private Medical Insurance, comprehensive health care cover with medical history disregarded from only £58 per month for a single person and £116 per month for a couple.

Head Office is open from 08.30 until 16.30 hours Monday to Thursday and 08.30 until 16.00 hours on Friday. Head Office staff are always willing to assist members with their queries.

