

<b>Authorising Committee:</b>	General Council
<b>Responsible Committee:</b>	Corporate Governance and Risk Committee
<b>Document Code:</b>	<b>REG OPCEO Finance Committee</b>

### BACKGROUND

In May 2013, the Resource Management Committee (RMC) was replaced by the Finance Committee. This change was as a result of the implementation of a new governance model that was passed by the Fellowship in August 2012.

The RMC was initially established by the RANZCP's General Council in February 2004. The RMC was established from a merger of the Finance Committee and the Resource Review Committee. General Council was replaced by the Board in May 2013.

### 1. ROLE

The primary objective of the Finance Committee (FC) is to act as an advisory body to the Board in relation to statutory and contractual compliance and financial strategy reporting.

### 2. RESPONSIBILITIES

The Finance Committee will be responsible for –

- a) Providing advice to the Board on outcomes and policies relating to statutory and contractual accountability, financial statement issues and financial management issues.
- b) Oversight of financial management.
- c) Receiving and reviewing the annual budget and making recommendations to the Board.
- d) Ensuring the College's initiatives are carefully monitored in relation to expenditure, achievement of goals, adherence to time constraints and reporting requirements.
- e) Monitoring the College's financial results throughout the year and making alterations in the budget for prudent financial management.
- f) Regularly reviewing the cash flow position and investments of the College.
- g) Receiving regular financial reports and providing regular progress reports to the Board on financial performance including College initiatives.
- h) Advising the Board on competing demands for resources, prioritising resource allocation and advising on alternative methods of funding College activities.
- i) Ensuring College financial systems comply with all relevant legislative requirements and that appropriate data management systems are in place to support these functions.
- j) Monitoring and reviewing overall risk management policy, planning and strategies of the College, and the process for their implementation
- k) Serving as an independent and objective party to review the financial information including annual and half yearly accounts and accounting policies and practices presented by management to the Board for presentation to College Members and regulatory authorities.
- l) Reviewing and assessing the adequacy of the reporting, financial risk management, accounting and internal controls of the College.
- m) Ensuring compliance with laws and regulations.
- n) Development and implementation of an annual work plan.

### **3. REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS**

The Finance Committee is formally appointed by the Board of Directors and is responsible to the Board. It shall report on its activities to each meeting of the Board, or as required.

The Committee will work closely with the Chief Executive Officer and Senior Management to ensure its responsibilities are met.

### **4. COMPOSITION / MEMBERSHIP**

Membership of the Finance Committee will comprise:

- A Board Director – Chair
- Five (5) Fellows

Members should have appropriate skills and experience suitable to a financial role.

The committee should comprise of at least one Fellow from Australia and one Fellow from New Zealand.

### **ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

#### **Chair**

- a) The Chair shall be elected by the Board from amongst the Board members.
- b) The term of office for the Chair shall be two (2) years from the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting in the election year in which he/she was elected or such later date, when a successor is elected.
- c) The initial term for the first Chair of the FC will be three years due to the Board transition phase (refer to Article 25 of the Constitution).
- d) The Chair will be eligible for re-appointment to this position to serve a maximum three (3) consecutive terms i.e. 6 years, (noting that the first Chair may serve up to up to 7 years during the transition phase).

#### **Members**

- a) Nominations for members are called from amongst the Fellows of the College, and will be appointed by the Board
- b) The term of office of all members shall be two (2) years from the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting in the election year in which he/she was elected or such later date when a successor is appointed.
- c) Members will be eligible for re-appointment to this position to serve a maximum of three (3) consecutive terms i.e.6 years.
- d) Where possible, the appointment process shall give due recognition to ensuring the adequacy of gender balance.

#### **Co-opted Members**

- a) The Committee may co-opt additional members with particular specified knowledge and/or expertise from time to time.
- b) The number of co-opted members shall be a maximum of two. The need for co-opted members shall usually be reviewed by the Committee each two years at the time of elections to the committee, but may be reviewed more frequently as considered necessary.
- c) Co-opted members of the Committee shall not have voting rights.
- d) Co-opted members would be expected to maintain confidentiality of the meetings' proceedings.

## **Casual Vacancies**

- a) In the event of the resignation of the Chair, the Board shall appoint an interim Chair.
- b) In the event of the resignation of a member of the Committee, whose term is not due to finish for 12 months or more, a call for nominations from the College Fellows shall take place. The nomination(s) will be considered by the Committee with the preferred candidate approved by the Board.
- c) In the event of the resignation of a member of the Committee whose term is due to finish within 12 months, the Committee shall appoint a casual vacancy, in consultation with the Board.
- d) The casual vacancy appointment shall be for the remainder of the term.
- e) A person appointed as a casual vacancy shall be eligible for appointment in accordance with this Regulation. For the purposes of this Regulation, the period of time served as a casual vacancy shall not be counted as a period of membership.

## **Observers**

- a) The FC may invite persons from time to time to attend some or parts of a Committee meeting as an Observer.
- b) Observers would be expected to maintain confidentiality of the meeting's proceedings.
- c) The number of observers will be at the discretion of the Committee.
- d) Observers shall not have voting rights.
- e) The need for observers shall be reviewed by the Committee each year.

## **5. POWERS**

The Committee shall observe any regulations or directions that may from time to time be imposed upon it by the Board.

Pursuant to Article 9.2 of the Constitution –

- “The Board may delegate any of its powers (other than that of delegation) to any person or Committee”.
- “The Board may revoke any delegation of its powers by ordinary resolution”.
- “Any Committee exercising the delegated power of the Board shall comply with all Regulations and any conditions or limitations that may be imposed by the Board”.

## **6. LIMITATION ON POWERS**

Pursuant to Articles 15.1, 15.3, 15.4 and 15.5 of the Constitution –

- “The Board may establish committees comprising such persons as the Board determines or otherwise determined in accordance with the Regulations”.
- “The Board shall determine the powers and duties of each Committee (its “Terms of Reference”) and each Committee shall in the exercise of its powers comply with the Regulations and its Terms of Reference”.
- “Unless specifically provided for in the Regulations or its Terms of Reference, a Committee may not make any determination of policy for the College, but may provide advice to the Board on any area falling within its Terms of Reference to assist the Board”.
- “Each Committee shall make such reports and recommendations to the Board as the Board reasonably requires”.

## **7. SECRETARIAT SUPPORT**

The Committee shall be supported by relevant staff of the College. In particular, the Chief Executive Officer, General Manager, Business Operations and Finance Manager shall be available to attend

meetings of the Committee. Other staff members may be requested to attend on an as-required basis. No employees of the College have voting rights on any College committee.

## **8. REVIEW**

- a) Pursuant to Article 15.8 of the Constitution, "The Board shall review the need for each Committee and the members thereof at least every two years".
- b) These Regulations shall be reviewed two (2) years from commencement.

## **9. OPERATION OF THE COMMITTEE**

### **10.1 Meetings**

- a) The Committee may meet for the transaction of business and adjourn and otherwise regulate its meetings as it thinks fit, taking into account budget implications. The Committee shall meet face-to-face twice a year.
- b) Meetings of the Committee may be in person, by telephone or other telecommunications or electronic means at the discretion of the Chair.
- c) The Chair may convene a meeting of the Committee by written notice to members of the Committee. An agenda shall be circulated in advance of the meeting.

### **10.2 Notice of Meetings**

- a) At least 24 hours notice of a meeting of the Committee must be given to each Committee member specifying the place, time and date of the meeting.
- b) Notice may be given in writing, by email, by fax, by telephone or other electronic and appropriate means.

### **10.3 Chair**

- a) The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Committee.
- b) If the Chair knows prior to a meeting they will not be able to attend, they can delegate a Committee member to Chair that meeting.
- c) If the Chair is not present at any meeting of the Committee within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting the members present shall elect a Committee member present to be Chair of the meeting.

### **10.4 Quorum**

- a) The quorum for the committee is 50% of the voting membership.
- b) If at any time the number of members is less than a quorum, the Committee may meet only for discussion purposes.
- c) The Committee may act notwithstanding any vacancy on the Committee.

### **10.5 Proxies**

Committee members are unable to appoint a proxy to attend a meeting on their behalf.

### **10.6 Voting**

- a) All Committee members, except co-opted members, observers and those without authority to vote, shall have full voting rights.
- b) Decisions arising at a meeting of the Committee shall be decided by a majority of votes of members present and voting.
- c) A decision by a majority of the members present and voting is for all purposes a decision of the Committee.

- d) The Chair of the meeting has a casting vote in addition to a deliberative vote where there is an equality of votes

### **10.7 Written Resolution**

A written resolution signed or approved by electronic mail by 75% of all members (other than any member on leave of absence) is taken to be a decision of the members passed at a meeting of the Committee duly convened and held.

### **10.8 Minutes of Meetings**

- a) A written record of all proceedings of Committee meetings shall be kept by the College.
- b) Draft minutes of all meetings should be promptly circulated to all Committee members.
- c) The minutes of the Committee's meeting will be submitted to the Board meeting held immediately following the Committee's meeting.

### **10.9 Defects in Appointment or Qualification of a Committee Member**

All acts done in good faith by a meeting of the Committee or by any person acting as a Committee member will be valid and effective notwithstanding that it is afterwards discovered that there was some defect in the appointment of that person or that the person was disqualified from acting for any reason.

### **10.10 Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality**

- a) All people attending a meeting of the Committee must declare any conflicts of interest to the Chair. Once a conflict of interest has been declared, the individual concerned may be excluded from the discussion and/or voting at the discretion of the Chair.
- b) Each member of the Committee including co-opted members, community members, proxies and observers must sign a Deed of Undertaking Relating to Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest.
- c) The Deed is valid for the period of time the member is part of the Committee and after they have finished on the Committee, particularly in relation to confidentiality.
- d) All signed Deeds must be forwarded to the College's Governance Officer.

### **10.11 Other Committees of the Finance Committee**

The Committee may establish Subcommittees or Working Groups following approval by the Board.

### **10.12 Financial Responsibility**

- a) The Committee must develop an annual budget based on the budget process developed by the College in conjunction with the College's Finance Department.
- b) The Committee is required to operate in accordance with College Policy, processes and within the budgetary constraints as determined by the Board. Any spending above and beyond the allocated budget requires explicit authorisation as per the College's Delegation of Authority Policy.

## **10. MEDIA & AUTHORISED STATEMENTS**

- a) With respect to making media or other external comment or representation, the College's Media Policy (available on the RANZCP website) should be consulted and adhered to.
- b) Pursuant to Articles 9.4.1 and 9.4.2 of the Constitution, "the President or the Board may authorise any Committee or individual to represent the College before any government or governmental body or committee or to make statements or express views on behalf of the College. The authority may be given generally or for a specific situation and may be given on such conditions as the President or the Board thinks fit. Unless duly authorised to do so under this Article, no Member may make any statement or express any view which purports to be a statement or view of the College or as having been made or expressed on behalf of or with the concurrence of the College".

- c) The Board is authorised to nominate RANZCP Members to comment to the media in accordance with their expertise. The Board may authorise Committee/Branch/Faculty/Section/Special Interest Group Chairs to comment on certain issues.

## 11. INTERPRETATION

The Regulation shall be known as the “Finance Committee”.

- “Article(s)” means an article or clause of the Constitution.
- “Affiliate” means a Member admitted pursuant to Article 3.5 of the Constitution.
- “Associate” means a Member admitted pursuant to Article 3.4 of the Constitution.
- “Board” means the board of the College established under the Constitution, each member of which shall be a Director of the College.
- “Carer” - a family member, friend or another whose life, because of their active caring and supporting role, has been affected by their close association with an individual who has, or who has had experience of mental illness.
- “Casual Vacancy” means a position that becomes vacant before the expiration of the term for which the holder was elected. A successor shall, if the term has not then expired, be appointed to hold the place from the date of his/her appointment until the expiration of the original term or the next election/appointment period (whichever is first). The period of time served as a casual vacancy shall not be counted as a period of office. A Casual Vacancy has voting rights.
- “Co-opted” means a person that has been co-opted for their area of expertise or knowledge of a particular area. A co-opted member is a nonvoting member.
- “College” or RANZCP means The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists
- “Committee” means the Finance Committee.
- “Community Member” encompasses Carers, Consumers and Community organisation Representatives as defined here.
- “Community Organisation Representative” – a representative (s) of non-government, community based or mental health-based organisations or volunteer organisations.
- “Consumer” means an individual who has, or has had experience of mental illness.
- “Constitution”, means the Constitution of The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (August 2012).
- “Election Year” means the year the College Constitution came into effect and every second year thereafter.
- “Ex-officio” means a member of a body (the Board, Committee, Faculty, Section etc) who is part of it by virtue of holding another office. Ex-officio (excepting College staff) members are voting members.
- “Elected” means the formal election process undertaken to elect a member. Call for nominations (from amongst the Fellows) must be undertaken and conducted in accordance with this Regulation. If a ballot is required, the method of voting will be “first past the post”.
- “Fellow” means a Member who holds Fellowship of the College pursuant to Article 3.3 of the Constitution.
- “Financial year” shall be defined in the same manner as for the activities of the Board of the College.
- “FC” means the Finance Committee.
- “General Meeting” means a general meeting of the College.

- “Terms of Reference” are the powers and duties of each Committee and are determined by the Board.

## 12. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

- Board Position Descriptions and Regulations
- Finance Committee Position Descriptions
- Audit Subcommittee Regulations
- RANZCP Constitution
- RANZCP Media Policy
- RANZCP Code of Conduct
- RANZCP Code of Ethics
- RANZCP Website
- RANZCP Annual Report
- Deed of Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest

## APPROVAL / REVISION RECORD

<b>Contact:</b>	<b>Louise Hain, Manager Governance and the Office of the President and CEO</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Version</b>	<b>Approver</b>	<b>Description</b>
17/11/2012	1.0	GC2012/4 R56	New document
<b>05/2015</b>			<b>Next review</b>