



Association for
Palliative Medicine

The Association for Palliative Medicine of Great Britain and Ireland

Annual General Meeting

Thursday 26 March 2026 | 15:10 – 16:20

Palliative Care Congress, Brighton Dome | Concert Hall

01/26 **Welcome and introduction** (Dr Suzanne Kite)

SK welcomed all to the meeting.

It has been a very busy year, and SK wished to thank the Lay Chair, Trustees and Secretariat for their support over the last 12 months.

02/26 **Minutes of 2025 Annual General Meeting** (Dr Suzanne Kite)

As the meeting was not quorate, the vote was conducted post event via email.

03/26 **President's Report** (Dr Suzanne Kite)

Suzanne Kite presented a number of slides to the audience and acknowledged the complexities that are becoming more frequent in daily life. Now is the time to identify where the APM can focus its resources most effectively. The APM Committees and SIFs are continuing to provide robust education and resources, and Suzanne encouraged all to read the committee reports in full.

The Strategic Framework has been a key piece of work this year, building on the results from the membership survey that was reported in early 2025. The presentation followed the aims of the framework which is available to view on the APM website.

Key pieces of work supporting this have included:

- 1) Re-developing our Values, Mission and Vision.
- 2) Building and supporting networks. A number of new SIFs have launched in the last 12 months.
- 3) Developing an EDI reflection tool to underpin all the decisions that the APM is to make.
- 4) Monitoring member survey data with our ongoing journey to celebrate diversity and promote equality for all in everything we do.
- 5) Developing Leaders
 - a. the lunchtime webinars for member engagement have been well received
 - b. a successful Senior Clinicians day was held at the Cicely Saunders Institute in October 2025, and a further session will be run later this year in Leeds.
 - c. Members are invited to attend Executive and Council meetings as observers.
 - d. Links with the Trainees committee have been strengthened
 - e. a new peer support programme will be launched imminently.
 - f. There have also been opportunities for the sharing of resources via the website to support members locally.
- 6) The APM has been involved in discussions which will influence national policy and legislative change. Dr Sarah Cox was a commissioner on the Palliative and End of Life Care Commission. The APM financially supported the commission alongside

other partners. We are reassured that there is now a national roadmap for what good palliative care services should look like. In England, the APM has also been responding to the Modern Service Framework which feeds into the NHS 10 year plan.

- 7) The Assisted Dying debate has continued at pace. A number of resources have been written, and oral evidence was provided to the Select Committee at different stages of the debate. Engagement with MPs, MSPs, members of the Welsh Senedd and with the House of Lords has also been undertaken, with letters and resources shared.
- 8) Alongside the Royal College of Physicians the APM co-signed a statement on Supportive Oncology, as well as engaging with the Ambitions Partnership and EAPC.
- 9) Championing continuous quality improvement. The 10 year FAMCARE Analysis has been published in the BMJSPC. The APM have also been endorsing guidelines via the Clinical Quality Committee for both APM generated Clinical Guidelines and collaborating with other external requests as received. Appraisal guidance has been updated, and John Ellershaw is our NACEL rep.

Suzanne thanked Dr Natasha Wiggins for the work that has been undertaken in her time as treasurer as Natasha prepares to demit later in the year.

Suzanne thanked all members, especially those who attend the webinars and partake in the work of the committees. A special thank you was also extended to the PCC committee, and Dr Sarah Bowers and Dr Guy Schofield who will be demitting as PCC chairs following the congress and welcomed Dr Gurpreet Gupta as PCC Chair for 2027 and 2028.

Suzanne also thanked Fliss Murtagh and Katherine Sleeman for the evidence produced via the NIHR Policy Research Unit, which has been hugely useful in demonstrating the benefits and impacts of palliative care at a crucial time.

SK handed over to PP

04/26 **Vice President's Report** (Prof Paul Paes)

Paul Paes introduced himself to those in attendance and thanked all for welcoming him into the role of Vice President/future President, and provided an overview of the following:

Education and Training:

Alongside the Education and Training Committee primarily, but also with input from the other APM committees, a huge amount of activity has been undertaken over the last 12 months. As a result, the APM's education offering is comprehensive and varied across all membership levels. e-ELCA remains a huge resource available for all to access.

A number of committees and SIFs are developing 'Padlets' which will offer a useful resource sharing tool, and these will be rolled out in due course.

Workforce, Research and Communications

The Workforce committee has been rejuvenated over the last 6 months. The committee's key piece of work is refreshing the 2012 Workforce guidelines for palliative care professionals. The committee are working towards a summer deadline for recommendations to be published.

The Research and Ethics committee are reviewing their focus, and the role of the Communications Committee is under review, as there is a need to know how best to express our key messaging.

Connecting APM Members

The Special Interest Forums have expanded hugely over the last couple of years so there is a wide variety of opportunities for members to be involved.

Paul also advised that another key focus has been considering what is important to be an APM member? This will continue to be developed over time. Peer Support remains a key request, and the introduction of the Peer Support programme is to offer an opportunity to collaborate and contact others who may be able to help with support on a range of topics.

Links with the Juniors and Trainee committees are being strengthened and recognition of those who have significantly engaged with the APM is being considered for the future.

Vision Mission and Values

Paul Paes acknowledged that this is a piece of work that has been undertaken over the last 6 months. Membership engagement has been sought, with final decisions to be discussed further at the May Council meeting. Currently there is a split vote between the two mission statements.

PP handed over to NW

05/26 Treasurers Report (Dr Natasha Wiggins)

Natasha Wiggins presented her report on the finances of the APM and provided an overview of the way that charity accounts work. Natasha explained that there are Restricted and Unrestricted funds. The Restricted funds are available for things that we do not have choice over what the funds are spent on. For the APM, e-ELCA and the Abe Guz projects are specifically allocated to those funds. In 2024 the Junior/Undergraduate funds were also brought under the umbrella of the APM. Unrestricted funds can be spent on whatever we choose including the operational costs. Natasha presented a number of slides, which showed that in the last year we have less funds than the year prior. 6 months of reserves are required as part of the Charity Commission guidelines. As it stands the APM has approximately 8.5 months worth of reserves available.

Natasha showed a graph which shows that membership is increasing year on year, however it was acknowledged that membership fees have not been increased in the last 4 years, despite inflationary rates. As a result of the vote at the March Council meeting, it was agreed that membership fees will rise this year to help balance the finances.

The aim of education is to deliver quality education for all, and financially the aim is to break even overall. As shown on the slides, this year the majority of events have broken even or made a small profit which is encouraging.

The strategic financial business plan is moving at pace along with support from the Finance Trustee, Sol Otchere. The business plan will aid financial decision making and contribute to the stability and integrity of the APM. Natasha explained that outgoings are consistently outweighing the income and as a result, a review of outgoings will be undertaken.

Natasha explained that she is developing a succession planning document which will be available as a resource for the incoming treasurer. Applications for the treasurer role are open until the 17th April and Natasha encourages all who may be interested to apply. Natasha wished to formally thank Sol Otchere for his support and work over the last 12 months.

NW handed over to SK

Ratification of Accounts

As the meeting was not quorate, this vote was conducted post event via email.

Proposer: Fiona Rawlinson

Seconder: Esther Waterhouse

06/26 Committees (Dr Suzanne Kite)

SK acknowledged and thanked the demitting committee members.

07/26 Welcoming New Council/Committees (Dr Suzanne Kite)

Suzanne welcomed new members to the APM Committees.

Dr Wendy Prentice joined as a new elected member of the Council in 2025.

Dr Natasha Lovell joined as Honorary Secretary.

Dr Natasha Wiggins is moving into the role of e-ELCA Clinical Lead.

As the meeting was not quorate, this vote was conducted post event via email.

Proposer: Victoria Wheatley

Seconder: David Brooks

Suzanne formally thanked Matthew Doré for his incredible work as Honorary Secretary over the last three years.

08/26 Questions

Suzanne Kite opened the floor for questions.

An observation from a member was raised surrounding comments and concerns about some colleagues not feeling they are an 'APM person' and queried whether there is a generational change based on the specialty training changes. What are the barriers to some for not joining?

Suzanne thanked the member for their question and acknowledged that she is incredibly encouraged by the work of the Juniors and Trainees committees, and what they are doing and feels great hope for the future of the specialty. A network for the specialty is needed, which the APM provides, and there is a need to support everyone to engage and contribute.

Sarah Cox agreed in regards to the perception of the APM, and that there is a need to improve the way we communicate and develop ourselves as an Association going forwards.

A comment about the Vision and Mission statements was raised in that Specialist Palliative Care is not mentioned. Suzanne acknowledged that both specialist and generalist palliative care is to be encompassed as part of the vision.

A member wished to express a special thank you to Suzanne for her work as President over the last 12 months.

09/26 Date of next Annual General Meeting (Dr Suzanne Kite)

Suzanne thanked all for attending and announced the next AGM will take place during PCC 2027.

All members with voting rights were sent a link to vote after the 2026 AGM.

Do you ratify the Association for Palliative Medicine 2025 AGM minutes

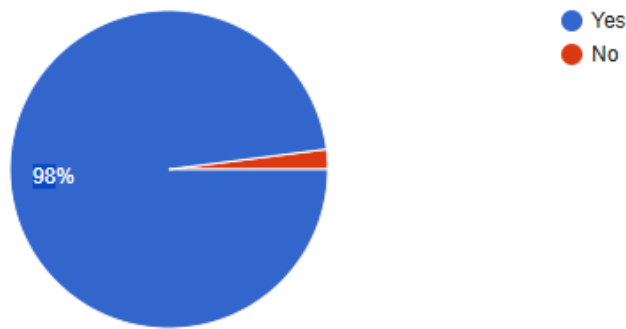
Proposer: Sarah Cox

Secunder: Matthew Doré

The 2025 AGM minutes were ratified after the meeting. The chart below reflects the votes cast.

Do you ratify the Association for Palliative Medicine 2025 AGM minutes?

99 responses



Do you ratify the Association for Palliative Medicine accounts for 2025?

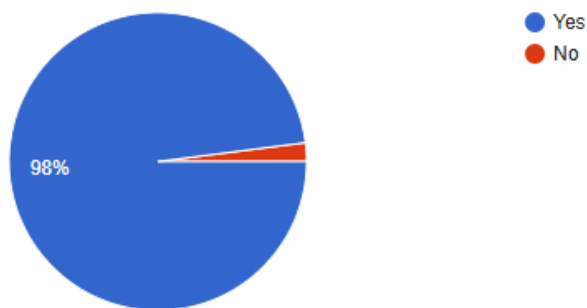
Proposer: Fiona Rawlinson

Secunder: Esther Waterhouse

The 2025 accounts were ratified after the meeting. The chart below reflects the votes cast.

Do you ratify the Association for Palliative Medicine accounts for 2025?

99 responses



During 2025, Dr Wendy Prentice joined the APM Council (formerly Board) as an elected member. Do you ratify the new Council member?

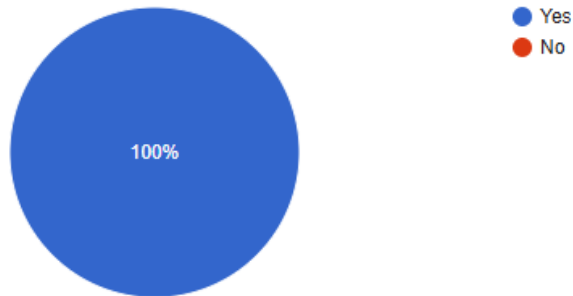
Proposer: Victoria Wheatley

Secunder: David Brooks

The new Council member was ratified after the meeting. The chart below reflects the votes cast.

During 2025, Dr Wendy Prentice joined the APM Council as an elected member.
Do you ratify this new APM Council member?

99 responses



Dr Natasha Lovell has been elected as incoming Honorary Secretary for period March 26 – March 29. Do you ratify the new Honorary Secretary?

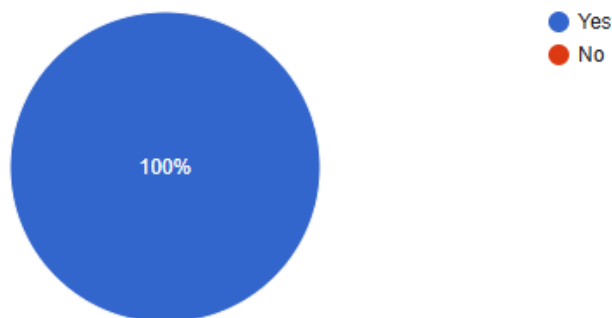
Proposer: Victoria Wheatley

Secunder: David Brooks

The new Honorary Secretary was ratified after the meeting. The chart below shows the votes cast.

Do you ratify Dr Natasha Lovell as the new APM Honorary Secretary?

99 responses



Dr Natasha Wiggins has been selected as the new e-ELCA Clinical Lead. Do you ratify the ne e-ELCA Clinical Lead?

Proposer: Victoria Wheatley

Secunder: David Brooks

The new e-ELCA lead was ratified after the meeting. The chart below shows the votes cast.

Do you ratify Dr Natasha Wiggins as the new e-ELCA Clinical Lead?

99 responses

