

# KONP CLG Rules

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## **Rules of KONP CLG**

Pursuant and in supplement to the Articles of Association of KONP

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May 2025<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Formally agreed at KONP Steering Group 10 May 2025 and Appendix 4 HCT Rules formally agreed at Steering Group 18 October 2025 to be added to KONP CLG Rules.

# Rules of KONP

## 1. Interpretation

These Rules are adopted by the Steering Group of KONP and should be read in conjunction with, and as supplementary to, the Articles of Association adopted by KONP; in the event of any inconsistency between a provision in these Rules and a relevant provision in the Articles of Association, the relevant provision in the Articles of Association shall prevail. Capitalised terms used but not defined in these Rules should be interpreted in accordance with the provisions set out in the Articles of Association.

## 2. Members: KONP Local Groups

3. KONP Local Groups must gain KONP approval before using the KONP logo or associating their activities with KONP but KONP will accept no liability for commitments entered into by such KONP Local Groups.

3.1 A KONP Local Group may register as a KONP Local Group in accordance with the Articles once three of its members have become KONP Individual Members and upon payment of the local group annual registration fee. Ongoing membership of the three KONP Individual Members, including that of any nominated representatives for the Steering Group, must be maintained annually alongside maintenance of KONP Local Group affiliation.

3.2 KONP reserves the right to dissociate itself from any KONP Local Group which it considers is compromising the integrity of the organisation. The dissociation must be done in accordance with the procedures set out in Appendix 1A of this document.

3.3 KONP Local Groups shall have the following responsibilities to local KONP Individual Members:

3.3.1 KONP will ensure that KONP Local Groups are informed of all KONP Individual Members in their area (subject to data protection compliance).

3.3.2 KONP Individual Members should be invited to give permission for their contact details to be sent to the KONP Local Group organisers (where a relevant KONP Local Group exists). KONP Local Groups should include all local KONP Individual Members, who have agreed for their contact details to be shared, in their notices and emails about their meetings and activities.

## 4. Members: KONP Affiliates and Health Campaigns Together (HCT)

4.1 To build the coalition, KONP shall encourage any national organisation which shares the aims of KONP (excluding political parties) and any local organisation which shares the aims of KONP to affiliate, and to become a KONP Affiliate. However, branches of political parties and other organisations which do not agree to become KONP Affiliates can be Supporting Affiliates only (see 4.4 below).

4.2 Organisations which both share the objects of KONP and have campaigning for them as their prime activity can become KONP Affiliates on payment of their affiliation fee or provision in kind and in accordance with the Articles.

4.3 KONP reserves the right to dissociate itself from a KONP Affiliate if it considers that that KONP Affiliate's continued affiliation would compromise the integrity of KONP. The dissociation must be done according to the procedures set out in Appendix 1A of this document.

4.4 Organisations which share KONP's objectives but do not have campaigning for those health and NHS-related objectives as their prime activity may become Supporting Affiliates by affiliating to Health Campaigns Together on payment of their affiliation fee.

4.5 Health Campaigns Together (HCT) as set out in Appendix (HCT) to these Rules.

4.6 **VOTING.** On matters related to KONP Company Limited by Guarantee only members of KONP may vote. On other matters including campaigning issues, all delegates will normally be able to vote, but the Chair shall have discretion over who may vote.

4.7 An organisation's affiliation as a KONP Affiliate or Supporting Affiliate shall end if it fails to pay its annual affiliation or provide the support agreed.

## 5. **Governance: the Executive Committee**

5.1 The Executive Committee shall defer to the Steering Group for strategic direction, save that:

5.1.1 the Executive Committee may develop its own strategies and bring those to the Steering Group for approval; and

5.1.2 in exceptional cases where there is no appropriate policy and consultation is impossible, the Executive Committee may act first and bring these actions for ratification to the Steering Group.

5.2 The Executive Committee must act in a transparent manner in their relationship with the Steering Group. The Executive Committee must present the minutes of its meetings the Executive Committee's activities held since the last minutes presented to each Steering Group meeting and respond to questions, queries, comments and challenges regarding its actions.

5.3 The Executive Committee may not enter into contractual agreements with a value of £5,000 or more (calculated on the basis of the annual value of a contract, for rolling or ongoing contracts) on behalf of the Company without the prior consent of the Steering Group. With that approval the Executive Committee may, in order to facilitate its duties, employ people directly, engage contractors or engage volunteers. Anyone employed or contracted must be given clear terms of employment that are available to, and agreed with the Steering Group. The same spirit of fair treatment will be applied to anyone who opts to be a contractor rather than an employee. Employees, contractors and volunteers will have the right to use the appeals procedure in case of dismissal or dispute with the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will agree arrangements for the support and

management of staff and volunteers which will ensure that they each have only one line manager. Staff appointments will be made by an interview panel consisting of at least two Executive Committee Members who are not Officers.

5.4 The Executive Committee shall:

- (a) oversee and assist the Officers with the implementation of the Company's policies and strategies;
- (b) ensure that the actions of the Officers are compliant with both the Articles, any rules, and the policy decisions of the Steering Group;
- (c) help to develop new initiatives for presentation to and approval by the Steering Group; and
- (d) ensure that the actions and decisions of the Executive Committee are fully reported to the Steering Group.

5.5 The Executive Committee may, with agreement from the Steering Group, co-opt additional persons to add specific experience or skills, provided that co-optees are KONP Individual Members and represent KONP Local Groups or KONP Affiliates which have paid any subscriptions due. Co-option must be agreed by the Steering Group and will normally be for a maximum of one year although it may be renewed at the discretion of the Steering Group by majority vote. Persons so co-opted shall be observers at meetings of the Executive Committee, who may contribute to discussions of the Executive Committee on invitation, and for the avoidance of doubt shall not have a vote at meetings of the Executive Committee and shall not be Executive Committee Members.

## 6. **Governance: Elections to the Executive Committee.**

6.1 Any member of the Steering Group may stand for election whether the delegate of a KONP Local Group or KONP Affiliate who must have attended at least two general meeting of the Steering Group in the previous 12 months.

6.2 Candidates may stand for more than one role.

6.3 Those standing for election must have up to date individual membership of KONP prior to the announcement of the election and the membership of the KONP Local Group or KONP Affiliate they represent must be up to date.

6.4 The chair must announce the opening of the election at a Steering Group meeting **at least eight weeks** before the Steering Group meeting where the votes will be counted, and as **close to two years** as possible (but not more than 26 months) **after the previous election**.

6.5 On announcement of the election, the Steering Group will elect from among those members of the Steering Group who are not standing for election, a group of three people who will supervise the election. This group will be known as the **Election Committee**.

6.6 The Election Committee must ensure that the elections are held in an open and fair way, following the procedures specified in Appendix 3 of this document. The officers and other members of the Executive Committee must follow the instructions of the Election Committee regarding the conduct of the elections.

6.7 Votes to determine the Executive Committee (EC) members will be counted first, followed by votes for officers. No one who has not been elected to sit on the EC will be able to hold an officer post. The candidates who rank seventh and eighth in the voting order for the no-officer Executive Committee Members will be kept as potential substitutes should any members of the Executive Committee stand down for any reason or be unable to carry out their duties for over two months due to ill health. If voting does not result in a successful candidate for officer posts, the new EC will determine who will take on the officer roles.

6.8 Candidates will submit brief, written information about themselves, as requested by the Election Committee but including information about membership of any political party and any commercial or charitable interests six weeks before an election to enable the information to be circulated to KONP Local Groups and KONP Affiliates, along with ballot papers.

6.9 Efforts should be made to ensure that at least three Executive Committee members are from outside London.

6.10 The Steering group may call in an outside body such as the Electoral Reform Society to oversee KONP elections.

6.11 Any member of the Executive Committee who fails to attend three meetings within a period of 12 months, either in person or on line and who gives no apologies in advance of those meetings, shall be deemed to have left the Executive Committee. Their place on it may be filled by candidates who came next in line at the previous election.

6.12 If there are insufficient nominations to fill all the places on the Executive Committee, all eligible nominees who have put themselves forward will be considered elected to the Executive Committee positions without contest.

## **7. Finances**

7.1 KONP Local Groups, KONP Affiliates, Supporting Affiliates, KONP Individual Members and any other supporting groups or affiliates shall pay a minimum annual membership or affiliation fee set by the Steering Group. Donations will also be encouraged.

7.2 The Treasurer in cooperation with the Officers shall be responsible for ensuring that proper controls are maintained over the funds of KONP, that proper accounting records are kept and audited and that a report giving an accurate picture of its financial affairs is circulated to members of the Executive Committee and Steering Group before each of their meetings.

7.3 Decisions regarding expenditure of over £1,000 should be agreed by the Executive Committee or Steering Group.

7.4 The signatories to the KONP account will be the Treasurer and any one of three others appointed by the Executive Committee.

**signed by**

Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Co- chair \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_

# Appendix 1: Grievance Procedure

- A. For KONP Local Groups, KONP Affiliates, or KONP Individual Members who are refused membership, have their membership terminated or are dissociated from KONP by the Executive Committee.**
1. A motion to refuse, terminate or dissociate a KONP Local Group, KONP Affiliate, or KONP Individual Member must be made by a majority vote at an Executive Committee meeting. The Executive Committee must inform the person or group involved in writing, giving reasons for the refusal/termination. The notice must also inform the refused/terminated group/person of their right to appeal. The Executive Committee must also inform the Steering Group.
  2. The Steering Group may decide to refer a refusal or termination decision to the Appeals Panel in the absence of any appeal being made.
  3. A KONP Local Group, KONP Affiliate, or KONP Individual Member who has their membership terminated will be advised that they must, with immediate effect, stop using the KONP logo or claiming to speak in the name of KONP. However, all voting and attendance rights will remain until either the time for an appeal has passed and no appeal has been lodged, or the appeals process has been completed and the action of the Executive Committee exonerated.
  4. An appeal must be made within four weeks of receipt of notice of refusal or termination. On receipt of an appeal the Chair of the Steering Group will refer the case to the Appeals/ Grievance panel of the Steering Group within two weeks.
  5. The Appeals/ Grievance panel will examine the evidence for the decision and grounds for the appeal then make a recommendation to the full Steering Group giving the reasons for their decision and a brief outline of the evidence on which it is based. KONP Local Groups, KONP Affiliates or KONP Individual Members who have been refused membership or had their membership terminated will be given an opportunity to present their case personally to the Appeals/Grievance panel. The panel will normally conclude their investigations within 6 weeks and communicate their conclusions and reasons to the appellants.
  6. The final decision will be made in a meeting of the Steering Group. Any decision to refuse membership, dissociate KONP from or terminate the membership of a KONP Local Group, KONP Affiliate, or KONP Individual Member will require a two-thirds majority vote in the Steering Group. Where the decision relates to a KONP Local Group or KONP Affiliate and they are not happy with the recommendation of the Appeals/ Grievance panel, they will be given an opportunity to speak at the meeting of the Steering Group which decides the case.

7. The Chair will advise appellants in writing of the decision of the Steering Group and the reasons for it.

## **B. Complaints against members of the organisation**

1. In the event of concerns arising about the actions of any Steering Group Member publicly promoting policies that are inconsistent with the policies of KONP or in any other way drawing the integrity of the organisation into disrepute a written complaint from 3 Steering Group Members should be made to the Chair of the Steering Group who will refer the matter to the Appeals/ Grievance panel and advise the person against whom the complaint has been made of the nature of the complaint, the process of investigation and their right to respond in person at a meeting of the Panel. Should the complaint be against a co-chair of KONP it should be addressed to the other co-chair, or to the KONP Executive Committee.
2. The Appeals/ Grievance panel will examine the evidence for the complaint and make whatever enquiries they deem necessary. They will offer an opportunity to the person against whom the complaint has been made to present their views to the panel in person. They will normally seek to conclude their enquiries within 6 weeks then make recommendations for action to the full Steering Group giving reasons for their decision and an outline of the actions they have taken to inform their recommendations.
3. The Steering Group will decide on action to be taken in response to the complaint.
4. In the event of concerns about any Executive Committee Member behaving in an unconstitutional manner or promoting policies that are inconsistent with the policies of the Company or in any other way bringing the integrity of the Company into disrepute a written complaint from any three Steering Group Members (who may also be Executive Committee Members) should be made to the Co-Chairs of the Steering Group who will instigate procedures in accordance with the Grievance Procedure adopted by the Company. Should it be deemed necessary to remove an Officer from their post or other Executive Committee Member from the Executive Committee this would require a simple majority of those present.
5. Care should be taken to respect the dignity of all Steering Group Members throughout all grievance procedures.
6. Minor infringements of these rules, such as genuine difficulties meeting timescales, should not invalidate the process.

# Appendix 2: Standing Orders

## **Standing Orders for the conduct of General Meetings of the Steering Group, and motions at the Individual Member Annual Meeting**

2.1 **The Agenda for Steering Group** meetings will be drawn up by the Chair in consultation with the Executive Committee. However, a motion sent to the chair at least two weeks before a Steering Group meeting, backed by at least three Steering Group Members, must be included on the agenda. A standing item at all Steering Group meetings will be the report from the Executive Committee on its activities with opportunity for questions and discussion. Time will be allocated both for local groups to share information and for any motions from groups to be heard. Proposed additions to the agenda from Steering Group Members should be put at the start of Steering Group meetings and agreed by the whole Steering Group.

### **2.2 Rules of debate at meetings**

- a. Ordinary motions should be submitted to the chair at least two weeks before the meeting and circulated to members at least one week before the meeting. Motions on the agenda shall be considered in the order in which they appear unless the order is changed at the discretion of the chair of the meeting. Motions submitted with less than 2 weeks' notice will be treated as emergency motions and the meeting will need to vote on whether or not they should be heard.
- b. A motion (including an amendment) shall not be progressed unless it has been moved and seconded.
- c. A motion on the agenda that is not moved by its proposer or substitute may be treated by the chairman of the meeting as withdrawn.
- d. If a motion (including an amendment) has been seconded, it may be withdrawn by the proposer only with the consent of the seconder and the meeting.
- e. An amendment is a proposal to remove or add words to a motion. It shall not negate the motion.
- f. If an amendment to the original motion is carried, the original motion becomes the substantive motion upon which further amendment(s) may be moved.
- g. A proposer may move an amendment to their own motion if agreed by the meeting. If a motion has already been seconded, the amendment shall be with the consent of the seconder and the meeting.
- h. If there is more than one amendment to an original or substantive motion, the amendments shall be moved in the order directed by the chairman.
- i. One or more amendments may be discussed together if the chairman of the meeting considers this expedient but each amendment shall be voted upon separately.
- j. A member may not move more than one amendment to an original or substantive motion.

- k. The mover of an amendment will have the right to reply for one minute before the amendment is voted on.
- l. Where a series of amendments to an original motion are carried, the mover of the original motion shall have a right of reply either at the end of debate of the first amendment or at the very end of debate on the final substantive motion immediately before it is put to the vote.
- m. Unless permitted by the chairman of the meeting, a member may speak once in the debate on a motion except:
  - i. to speak on an amendment moved by another member;
  - ii. to move or speak on another amendment if the motion has been amended since they last spoke;
  - iii. to make a point of order;
  - iv. to give a personal explanation; or
  - v. in exercise of a right of reply.
- n. During the debate of a motion, a member may interrupt only on a point of order or a personal explanation and the member who was interrupted shall stop speaking. A member raising a point of order shall identify the standing order which s/he considers has been breached or specify the other irregularity in the proceedings of the meeting s/he is concerned by.
- o. A point of order shall be decided by the chairman of the meeting and her/his decision shall be final.
- p. When a motion is under debate, no other motion shall be moved except:
  - i. to amend the motion;
  - ii. to proceed to the next business;
  - iii. to adjourn the debate;
  - iv. to put the motion to a vote;
  - v. to ask a person to be no longer heard or to leave the meeting;
  - vi. to refer a motion to a subgroup for consideration;
  - vii. to adjourn the meeting; or
  - viii. to suspend particular standing order(s) excepting those which reflect mandatory statutory requirements.

- q. Before an original or substantive motion is put to the vote, the chairman of the meeting shall be satisfied that the motion has been sufficiently debated and that the mover of the motion under debate has exercised or waived his/her right of reply.
- r. The contributions or speeches by a member shall relate only to the motion under discussion and shall not exceed 3 minutes without the consent of the chairman of the meeting.

**2.3** Voting at meetings will take place by a simple show of hands. In the absence of consensus, decisions will be made by simple majority vote with the exception of the following cases:

- a. Amendments to the Constitution and dissolution which shall be subject to the provisions of the Articles.
- b. Exclusions of individuals or dissociations from KONP of local and affiliated groups (which shall be subject to these rules and the Articles).
- c. Executive Committee elections (which shall be subject to these rules and the Articles).

#### **2.4 Disorderly Conduct at Meetings**

- a. No person shall obstruct the transaction of business at a meeting or behave offensively or improperly. If this standing order is ignored, **[STEP 1]** the chairperson of the meeting shall request such person(s) to moderate or improve their conduct.
- b. If person(s) disregard the request of the chairperson of the meeting to moderate or improve their conduct, **[STEP 2]** any member or the chairman of the meeting may move that the person be no longer heard or excluded from the meeting. The motion, if seconded, shall be put to the vote without discussion.
- c. If a resolution made under standing order 2(b) above is ignored, **[STEP 3]** the chairperson of the meeting may take further reasonable steps to restore order or to progress the meeting. This may include temporarily suspending or closing the meeting.

## Appendix 3: Conduct of elections to the Executive Committee

1. The election committee is the ruling body in the conduct of the elections. In the event of disputes concerning the elections the decision of the Election Committee will be final. .
2. The officers will provide the committee with a full list of paid-up KONP and full affiliate groups, and all requirements will be in line with the Articles and Rules.
3. The Election Committee will send all eligible groups notification of the election, the election timetable and request for candidates [Form 1] plus candidate's details [Form 2].
4. Candidates for the election must complete and return Form 2 within two weeks. If not complete, the election committee will inform the candidate of any failings within 48 hours of receipt of the incomplete Form 2 to enable the candidate to make the necessary amendments, as long as the deadline is not breached.
5. The Election Committee will send all eligible groups completed Forms 2 for each candidate, a ballot paper for the Executive Committee and separate ballot papers for each of the officer posts, and instructions on how to vote five weeks before the deadline for return.
6. Each group will decide for itself how they wish to exercise their right to vote. For instance, they may decide that their representative on the steering group will vote on behalf of their group or they may wish to involve other members of their local group in the decision.
7. Completed ballot papers should be returned to the Election Committee by the stated deadline.
8. The Election Committee will announce the results at the next Steering Group meeting.
9. Those elected will begin their new roles with immediate effect.

# FORMAT FOR BALLOT

## **Ballot paper for the Executive Committee**

1. The ballot paper for the EC will list all the candidates who have put their name forward for election, including those wishing to stand for officer posts.
2. Each delegate will have 10 votes, with votes indicated by checking a box alongside the candidate's name. Delegates are not obliged to use all 10 of their votes.
3. The count will consist of the total number of votes cast for each of the candidates.
4. The count for the Executive Committee will be completed before those for officer posts.

## **Ballot papers for Officer posts**

1. There will be three separate ballot papers for each of the officer posts (Co-Chairs; Treasurer; Secretary).
2. All candidates for each officer post will be listed on the respective ballot paper
3. Where the post is shared, as in Co-chairs, each delegate will have two votes. Delegates may vote for two candidates, but not allocate two votes to a single candidate.
4. For other posts, each delegate will have one vote
5. Votes will be indicated by checking a box alongside the candidate's name (two checks for the co-chair posts)
6. The count will consist of the total number of votes cast for each of the candidates.
7. The individual(s) with the most votes will normally be elected to that officer post, save that:
8. In the event that someone who wins the ballot for one of the officer posts is not one of those elected in the ballot for the 10 Executive posts, that person will not succeed to the officer post and the candidate for the officer post with the next highest number of votes who is also voted onto the EC will be elected to the officer post.
9. In the event that no one can be elected to an officer post via the officer ballot, the newly elected EC shall decide which of them will take on the officer role.

# Form 1: Model letter for announcing the election

## **Announcement of the election for the Executive Committee of “Keep Our NHS Public” and invitation to candidates ( form 1)**

**Dear KONP Steering Group Members and key contacts for local KONP and full affiliate groups**

At the Steering Group meeting on ..... the Chair announced that elections are to be held for the Executive Committee. The elections will be for the following roles: co-chair (2 posts), the secretary, the treasurer and non officer executive committee members (6 posts). Any member of the Steering Group (except co-optees) may stand for election.

It is possible to stand for more than one post. A member who stands for secretary will also be required to stand for one of the posts of ordinary Executive Committee member-

Each group that is entitled to send a delegate to the KONP Steering Group is entitled to vote in the separate ballots for Executive Committee members, Co-Chairs, Treasurer and Secretary.

Each group can decide for itself how it wants to exercise the right to vote. For instance, the whole group may wish to discuss their votes; alternatively, the delegate may cast the vote on behalf of the group.

### **Please note the following deadlines:**

1. Anyone who wishes to be a candidate must return the attached Form 2: Candidate's Details by ..... ( **date**) Completed forms should be e mailed to ..... or posted to .....  
The Election Committee will send you an acknowledgment that your form has been received within 7 days.
2. The named contacts for all KONP and full affiliate groups will receive by e mail the completed Form 2s for all candidates and ballot papers by ..... ( date)
3. Please confirm receipt of your ballot paper by ..... ( date ) by e mailing the election group at .....
4. You must return your ballot paper to ..... by ..... (date). Please do not leave returning your ballot paper to the last minute. If your ballot paper is not received by midnight on the date above your KONP or Full Affiliate group will be disqualified from voting.
5. Please e mail ..... to advise your ballot paper has been sent. The Election Committee will acknowledge receipt of your ballot paper by e mail.

## Form 2 : Candidate's Details

**Post(s) applied for:** please write **YES** against any posts for which you wish to be considered.

<b>Co chair</b>	(two posts)	.....
<b>Secretary</b>	(one post)	.....
<b>Treasurer</b>	(one post)	.....
<b>Ordinary Executive Member</b>	(six posts)	.....

**Name:** .....

**KONP or full affiliate group:** .....

**Length of Membership of KONP:**

**Relevant background, experience, skills,** political & trade union allegiances and activities in pursuit of the aims of KONP (max 250 words)

**What I see as the key priorities for KONP** in the coming year and if elected, how I intend to help KONP pursue these (250 words)

**Declaration of any relevant commercial or charitable interests:**

### Form 3: Model Ballot Paper: Elections to Executive Committee

<b>Executive Committee Members (10 posts; Vote for up to 10 candidates using a X in the Vote box).</b>	
<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Candidate A	
Candidate B	
Candidate C	
Candidate D	
Candidate E	
Candidate F	
Candidate G	
Candidate H	
Candidate I	
Candidate J	
Candidate K	
Candidate L	

<b>Co-Chair (2 posts; Vote for up to 2 candidates using a X).</b>	
<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Candidate A	
Candidate B	
Candidate C	
Candidate D	
Candidate E	
Candidate F	

<b>Secretary (1 post; Vote for 1 candidate only using a X).</b>	
<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Candidate A	
Candidate B	
Candidate C	
Candidate D	
Candidate E	

<b>Treasurer (1 post; vote for 1 candidate only, using a X)</b>	
<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Candidate A	
Candidate B	
Candidate C	
Candidate D	
Candidate E	

Each Group is entitled to complete one ballot form for each of The Executive Committee, Co-Chairs; Treasurer and Secretary.

Each group can determine how it wishes to vote – whether delegates will vote on behalf of the group, or whether voting should be a result of another process.

Please place a X against the names of candidates you want to see elected. On the EC list each group can vote for up to 10 candidates. On the Co-Chairs list you can vote for up to 2 candidates. For Secretary and Treasurer posts, vote for one candidate.

## Appendix 4:

# HEALTH CAMPAIGNS TOGETHER RULES <sup>2</sup>

## 1. Aims and methods

- 1.1 Health Campaigns Together (HCT) functions as the trade union-oriented NHS campaign in Keep Our NHS Public, organising as a semi-autonomous body within KONP. Health Campaigns Together merged with Keep Our NHS Public in July 2022.
- 1.2 KONP and HCT hold aims that are consistent with KONP's founding principles. The overriding objective is to reinstate a comprehensive, universal, publicly owned, provided and publicly accountable NHS which is free at the point of use, based on need, and resourced fully to provide 21st century care for all, on a long-term and sustainable basis.
- 1.3 Health Campaigns Together (HCT), is a coalition of affiliated trade union, labour movement and civil society organisations campaigning against cutbacks, fragmentation, market-style reforms and privatisation to defend the National Health Service.
- 1.4 KONP and HCT will also support campaigning for the formation of a publicly funded national care, support and independent living service.
- 1.5 HCT affiliates will be listed on the KONP-HCT websites. [See section 2, 'Affiliations']
- 1.6 HCT and KONP will work together to produce publications to be jointly published and distributed, including an occasional newspaper, information and campaigning materials, online and (if the demand is sufficient) in print.
- 1.7 HCT and KONP (usually jointly) will hold conferences and other events organised by the HCT Committee and in liaison with its affiliates.

## 2. Affiliations

- 2.1 Local or national trade unions, branches or affiliates of political parties, pressure groups, national or local campaign groups, may apply to affiliate to HCT, on payment of the appropriate annual subscription (or provision in kind)
- 2.2 Organisations will share the overall aims of HCT and KONP as set out in paras 1.1 – 1.4.
- 2.4 HCT affiliates may send a delegate to HCT affiliates meetings.
- 2.5 **HCT affiliates with a predominant NHS/health interest**

Dual full affiliate membership of KONP is open to organisations affiliating to HCT whose predominant interest is the NHS and health. This may include national health unions GMB, UNISON, PDA, BMA etc. (Unite is a founding member of KONP as well as HCT

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<sup>2</sup> To enter the KONP CLG Rules as Appendix 4 (formally agreed at 18 October 2025 SG). These Rules follow amendment of the HCT Constitution (July 2022) in order to align them with KONP Articles & Rules of Association (amendments adopted at 10 May 2025 KONP SG) and following discussion at KONP EC May '25 and KONP's HCT Committee 12 June 2025)

affiliate.) Their chosen delegate may attend KONP steering group (KONP SG) meetings and participate in discussion and voting.

## **2.6 HCT ordinary affiliates**

Organisations with a wider focus than the NHS, affiliating to HCT in solidarity – including non-health national unions, their local branches, local TUCs and local organisations part of national political parties – are automatically offered dual affiliation to KONP.

**2.7** HCT ordinary affiliates of KONP have the right to attend KONP SG as observers.

**2.8** HCT affiliates will elect two delegates from their members with dual supporting KONP affiliation to be voting members of KONP SG. This ensures HCT affiliates' input into policy (in addition to HCT chair)

**2.9** Affiliated organisations that are more than six months in arrears with their affiliation subscription shall be lapsed from the list of affiliated organisations.

## **Transitional guidance following the merger**

*Prior to the merger, trade union, labour movement and civil society organisations affiliated to KONP as 'KONP Supporting Affiliates'. Since the merger, these KONP Supporting Affiliates are logically part of HCT as HCT affiliates. They have been informed of this change of name to 'HCT affiliate' in KONP. This unifies the trade union-facing work of HCT in KONP*

*Full KONP affiliate status is open to organisations campaigning on the NHS and health care as their dominant activity.*

*Since July 2022, affiliates to HCT have been offered joint affiliation to KONP at no extra charge. Should there have been HCT affiliates not wanting to be joint KONP affiliates they were still to be HCT affiliates, retaining full attendance rights at HCT affiliates meetings. This has not been taken up by any union or labour movement organisation and has proven to be no longer relevant.*

**This transitional guidance shall be defunct after December 2025**

## **3. Affiliates Meetings**

**3.1** Affiliates Meetings will be composed of one delegate from each affiliated organisation, each with one vote.

**3.2** HCT affiliates will meet as and when needed.

**3.3** Affiliates will meet to propose and discuss work, including as proposed by HCT committee and KONP SG

**3.4** The Affiliate meeting will elect HCT chair; two voting delegates to KONP SG from KONP supporting affiliates; and up to six members of the HCT committee.

**3.5** Affiliates will consider and decide on proposals for campaign work from affiliates, KONP SG and HCT committee

**3.6** An Annual Meeting will be held during each calendar year.

## 4. HCT Committee

- 4.1 The HCT committee membership will comprise: the elected HCT chair; up to six committee members elected by HCT affiliates; up to six interested TU activists amongst KONP SG delegates; representation from the KONP national team.
- 4.2 HCT committee will propose and execute HCT plans between affiliates meetings and liaise with KONP Steering Group and Executive Committee.
- 4.3 The KONP team will collaborate with the HCT chair and committee in promoting HCT's work and administering HCT publication, finance and distribution, individual or bulk.
- 4.4 The HCT committee may co-opt interested additional members.
- 4.5 The HCT committee's decisions will be consistent with HCT's interests and agreed proposals and it will report to affiliates meetings.
- 4.6 The HCT committee will meet monthly or as often as needed.
- 4.7 The Chair and committee will lead on liaison with national unions, and on leading HCT and KONP strategy and liaison at regional and local level with unions and KONP and HCT affiliates.
- 4.8 As well as TU-led work, the Committee will be responsible for developing publicity and information in print and online
- 4.9 The Committee will also work with KONP on enhancing our online and social media presence, including delegating members of the Committee to oversee this work.

## 5. Chair

- 5.1 The Chair will represent HCT and as part of KONP, and act as the primary spokesperson for HCT publicly.
- 5.2 The Chair will chair all Affiliates Meetings and HCT Committee meetings, unless unable to do so, in which case s/he will appoint a substitute for that meeting.
- 5.3 The Chair will seek consensus over any decisions to be taken by Affiliates and Committee Meetings.
- 5.4 The Chair may delegate responsibilities to members of the HCT Committee.
- 5.5 Chair of HCT will be a member of the KONP Steering Group and an ex-officio voting member of KONP EC (unless already an elected KONP EC member).

## 6. Finance

- 6.1 KONP is a company limited by guarantee and is the parent body of HCT.
- 6.2 HCT-specific funds will be administered by the HCT committee, focused on HCT-led activity, developing publicity and information, online and in print, in conjunction with KONP.
- 6.3 Proposals with cost implications that are affordable within HCT specific finances (affiliation fees or donations) may be agreed by HCT committee.
- 6.4 Any larger project would need to seek support and further funding from KONP or other sources.
- 6.5 As well as TU-led work, the Committee will be responsible for developing publicity and information in print and online
- 6.6 The HCT committee may make reasonable payments from its funds to KONP in recompense for expenses incurred by KONP in supporting HCT work.

## 7. Data control

- 7.1 KONP takes responsibility as Data Controller under the terms of the Data Protection Act and the General Data Protection Regulations and will be responsible for compliance.
- 7.2 KONP's data protection policy applies to its governance of HCT-derived data in the merged organisation.

## 8. Amendments to Rules

Amendments to these rules may be proposed by the HCT Committee or an HCT affiliates meeting and must be endorsed by a two-thirds majority of a KONP Steering Group.

*[HCT Rules formally agreed to become Appendix 4 in KONP CLG's Articles and Rules of Association at the October Steering Group of KONP]*