

## National Boards

7 The functions of the Boards are to:

- approve institutions to provide courses of training
- ensure that courses of training meet Central Council requirements as to their kind, content and standard
- hold or arrange for others to hold such examinations as are necessary to satisfy requirements for registration or additional qualifications
- collaborate with Council in promotion of improved training methods and
- provide advice and guidance to Local Supervising Authorities for midwives.

8 In addition the Boards are to carry out any other functions prescribed by the relevant Secretary of State.

9 In addition to their primary function of the implementation and monitoring of Council standards for education, all the National Boards have additional functions. These are specified in the statutory instruments through which they were established in each country; any may differ from country to country. These functions include careers information, research into training methods, provision of courses of training

and further training for nurse, midwifery and health visitor teachers and provision of a central applications system (Scotland). The constitution of the National Boards is prescribed in the Act and elaborated in statutory instruments.

10 Other clauses and schedules to the act cover:

- false representation as to holding qualifications or being registered
- the establishment of Local Supervising Authorities for midwives
- a restriction of activity (attendance at childbirth) to a registered midwife or registered medical practitioner
- the entry of overseas practitioners; and the practice of visiting European Economic Area [EEA] practitioners
- ensuring European Community obligations are met
- the power to charge fees “to defray expenses”
- the power of the Secretary of State to make grants to Council and Boards
- powers to remunerate president (of Council) and members (of Boards); and pay travelling and other allowances of members