The Australian College of Midwives (ACM) is seeking privately practising (endorsed) midwives and consumers who are interested in joining the Private Practice Midwives Advisory Committee (PPMAC).

PPMAC Purpose
There are ongoing challenges to address maternity care and private practice in Australia requiring the active involvement of the Australian College of Midwives (ACM). The Private Practice Midwives Advisory Committee (PPMAC) will provide advice and make recommendations to ACM on matters that pertain to private practice and maternity care.

The role of the Committee is to:
- Provide expert advice to ACM (including the Board) via the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) on matters related to all areas of maternity care where ACM members are engaged private practice (e.g. privately practising midwives, lactation consultants, childbirth educators, therapists).
- Provide expert advice and support to the CEO on ways in which to utilise national / international policies and developments to assist with the ongoing development of private practice and maternity care in Australia.
- Make recommendations about ways in which ACM can effectively contribute to the ongoing development of private practice in maternity care in Australia.
- Undertake specified tasks or projects as requested by the CEO from time to time, such as drafting ACM policies, responding to external consultations, other relevant projects relating to private practice in maternity care.
- Represent ACM as either individuals or as a group when requested to do so by the CEO in matters of relevance for private practice and as resources permit.
- Liaise with various national and international organisations and individuals on behalf of ACM when requested to do so by the CEO.
- Provide input to the CEO on the selection of experts to represent ACM on national/international committees relating to private practice as necessary.
- Liaise with any other ACM Advisory Committee through the Chair as matters arise.
- Carry out the responsibilities/role in a culturally-safe manner, demonstrating respect and understanding of the wide variety of cultural beliefs and practices members may come across during their time on this committee.

Appointment
As per the TOR, the appointment is for a period of 3 years.

Members will need to undertake a membership renewal EOI process at the end of their first term, thus reconfirming their commitment to the Committee and the Committee obligations. Re-appointment to the Committee will be dependent on a successful EOI being completed, as well as, evidence being noted of active participation in Committee meetings and project work over the period of the previous appointment.

Meetings
The PPMAC meets quarterly by Zoom or teleconference however a majority of work is undertaken by email. The current meeting schedule is as follows (but are subject to change):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>February, May, August, November</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Day</td>
<td>1st or 2nd Tuesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>12:00pm (AEST)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Transparency
Expressions of Interest
Private Practice Midwives Advisory Committee (PPMAC)

Names and profiles of members will be communicated to ACM members via e-bulletin, website and social media. This is to ensure transparency of governance and inform members of ACM activity.

Expectations
- Members should be prepared to attend all scheduled meetings for the Committee, with a minimum of 50% attendance per year to maintain Committee membership;
- Members should be prepared to actively participate in all dialogue that occurs “out of session” pertaining to Committee business, which may on occasion require a quick response. E.g. regularly check email correspondence and promptly respond to requests, even if this is to say "I’m sorry I can’t contribute!". This information will inform decisions related to continued membership of the committee;
- In busy periods you may anticipate the need to dedicate approximately 1-2 hours per week to the committee;
- Contribute to or lead committee work, which may include providing opinions on courses or web pages, commenting on documents, contributing to submissions, writing for the Australian Midwifery News, etc.

What’s in it for you?
- You will receive a letter of acknowledgement of your appointment to the ACM PPMAC which can be used in your professional portfolio;
- You can add this role to your CV as evidence of your professional engagement and personal/professional development;
- You can log all hours that you undertake attending meetings or addressing work for the PPMAC in your professional portfolio as CPD hours;
- You will have access to resources and engagement with fellow health professionals with expertise in the field of private practice;
- You will have the opportunity to help guide private practice developments and changes;
- You will gain experience in working on a Committee and there may be opportunities to represent the ACM at local or national events;
- You will build up your personal/professional network by working with your midwifery peers.

Selection Criteria
The PPMAC is a skills-based committee with appointments made against the following criteria:
- Current financial member of the ACM
- Midwifery members have registration as a midwife with the NMBA and be able to meet recency of practice requirements.
- Currently working as a private practitioner in maternity care in Australia. Or, have an interest in private practice as a consumer.
- Have a well-developed capacity to analyse research evidence and other sources of information relating to private practice.
- Have email access.
- Have a willingness to donate time and expertise to the scheduled meetings and activities undertaken by the committee on behalf of the College as outlined in the Committee’s TOR.

PPMAC Terms of Reference
Download the TOR here

For further information
Please contact Hilary Rorison (Midwifery Advisor Professional Practice Unit)
hilary.rorison@midwives.org.au

To apply
You will need to send the following details:
- Current CV
Expressions of Interest
Private Practice Midwives Advisory Committee (PPMAC)

- Written response to all of the Selection Criteria
  Send to: admin@midwives.org.au

Process for selection
- Once applications are received, they will be reviewed for completeness. An incomplete application will not be considered.
- Completed applicants that have addressed the selection criteria will be sent to the Midwifery Advisor Professional Practice Unit & the current PPMAC Chair for review.
- Approved applications will be submitted to the ACM CEO for approval.
- Successful applicants will be recruited to the PPMAC in readiness for the next available meeting.
- Unsuccessful applicants will be contacted and advised of the reasoning for their application not being approved.
- Ideally the process will take no more than 6 weeks from receipt of application. ACM will advise if there are any anticipated delays.