

THE BOWEN FORUM

CONSTITUTION

Adopted by Special Resolution on 17 October 2005.

1. NAME

The name of the organisation, hereinafter called "the Forum" is "THE BOWEN FORUM" and is established, in the public interest, to represent the interests of those who practise the Bowen Technique as a therapeutic practice and who wish to be identified as Bowen therapists.

2. OBJECTIVES

The objectives for which the Forum is established are:

- a) To establish a single voluntary, self-regulating UK register of professional Bowen therapists.
- b) To establish a common code of ethics.
- c) To establish criteria and procedures for the registration of Bowen therapists to a single UK register.
- d) To establish accreditation processes to accredit courses in the Bowen Technique.
- e) To define, promote and continually evaluate the elements and standards of best practice of the Bowen Technique.
- f) To advance public knowledge and awareness of Bowen.
- g) To support research into the therapeutic effects of Bowen.

3. POWERS

In furtherance of the objects but not otherwise the Forum may exercise the following powers:

- a) the power to raise funds and to invite and receive contributions;
- b) the power to employ such staff as are necessary for the proper pursuit of the objects;
- c) the power to co-operate with other organisations operating in furtherance of the objects or of similar purposes and to exchange information and advice with them;
- d) the power to establish or support any charitable trusts, associations, or institutions formed for all or any of the objects;
- e) the power to appoint and constitute such advisory committees and working groups as the Forum may think fit;
- f) the power to do all such other lawful things as are necessary for the achievement of the objects.

4. MEMBERSHIP

- a) Full Membership shall be open to United Kingdom based associations
 1. which only register Bowen therapists, with clearly defined criteria and procedures for registration or;
 2. which are multidisciplinary registering associations with clearly defined sections of Bowen therapists, where there are clearly defined criteria and procedures for entry to the Bowen section of the register.

Full Members will pay an annual subscription based on the number of practitioner members on the association's register at the beginning of the calendar year.

- b) Affiliate Membership shall be by invitation of the Forum, and shall be open to any individual, association or other entity with an interest in the Bowen Technique, who meet the agreed criteria for Affiliate membership.
- c) Lay Membership shall be by invitation of the Forum, and Lay Members shall be selected impartially and based on merit.
- d) Any Member Association may resign from the Forum by giving notice in writing to the Secretary, such notice being accompanied by any Monies due to the Forum.
- e) Automatic loss of Membership and associated voting rights will occur for any association if subscriptions are not paid within the first three months of the calendar year.
- f) The Forum may for good reason terminate the Membership of an association provided that the association concerned shall have the right to be heard by the Forum.

5. REPRESENTATION ON THE FORUM

- a) Each Full Member Association may appoint a maximum of two representatives to the Forum and may appoint alternates to replace its two appointed representatives at any meeting of the Forum if one or both of the appointed representatives are unable to attend.
- b) Appointed representatives shall be practising Bowen therapists, and must be full members of the Member Association.
- c) Appointed representatives of a Full Member Association should not have any financial interest in any training organisation.
- d) Appointed representatives will be expected to serve for a minimum of two years.
- e) Affiliate Members may appoint one representative to the Forum.
- f) Lay Members will be represented on the Forum

6. VOTING RIGHTS

- a) The Forum will strive at all times to work on a basis of consensus.
- b) Each Full Member Association shall have votes according to the following table:

Under 20 practitioner members	0 votes
Over 20 practitioner members	2 votes per 20 members

Practitioner members are therapists who have satisfied the membership requirements of their associations, and include associate members, but do not include student members. The number of members shall be the number on the association's register at the beginning of the calendar year.
- c) If two representatives attend from one Full Member Association, the votes of that association shall be divided equally between them. It shall be agreed that the appointed representatives have full power to represent their Associations.
- d) A two thirds majority of the votes will be necessary to carry a motion, provided that two thirds of the appointed representatives present also agree. However, if the Independent Chair believes that the motion is so important as to require a unanimous decision, then all the appointed representatives will have to agree.
- e) Affiliate Members and their representatives and Lay Members shall have no voting rights.

7. QUORUM

A quorum at all meetings shall be a minimum of two Full Member Associations present, not including Affiliate Members. However, except at a General Meeting, no votes are to be taken at meetings where not all Full Members Associations are present.

8. SUBSCRIPTIONS AND ENTRANCE FEES

Annual subscriptions and entrance fees, if any, shall be agreed each year at the Annual General Meeting. Subscriptions and any entrance fees are not refundable under any circumstances.

9. HONORARY OFFICERS

At each Annual General Meeting of the Forum the Member Associations shall elect a Chair, a Secretary and a Treasurer who shall hold office from the conclusion of that meeting until the next Annual General Meeting. The appointed representatives of the Full Member Associations may appoint a Lay Member as Independent Chair to represent the Forum and to preside over the meetings of the Forum.

10. MANAGEMENT

- a) The overall control of the Forum shall be vested in the Forum.
- b) The ordinary business of the Forum shall be conducted by the Forum presided over by the Independent Chair or failing her/him the Chair, the Secretary or a Chair elected from the representatives of Members present at the meeting.
- c) Meetings at which the ordinary business of the Forum is conducted shall be open to the appointed representatives of Full Member Associations and Lay Members only, unless it is agreed at a previous meeting that others are to be specifically invited to attend.

11. RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE

The funds of the Forum, including all donations, contributions and bequests shall be paid into an account operated by the Forum in the name of the Forum at such bank as the Forum shall from time to time decide.

Travel and subsistence expenses of appointed representatives will only be reimbursed if agreed in advance at the previous meeting.

12. ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT

All accounts of the Forum shall be made up to the thirty-first day of December in each calendar year. If required by statute, such accounts shall be audited annually by a duly elected auditor and such auditor shall sign the said accounts and report thereon.

13. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

An Annual General Meeting shall be held in each calendar year at a date not later than fifteen months after the last Annual General Meeting for the purposes of transacting the following business:

- a) To receive and, if so resolved, to adopt the Treasurer's audited Statement of Accounts for the preceding financial year ended the thirty-first day of December.
- b) To receive the Chair's Report.
- c) To elect the Officers.
- d) To appoint an auditor, if required.
- e) To transact any other relevant business.

14. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

The Forum may at any time call a Special General Meeting of the Forum.

15. NOTICE OF MEETINGS

At least twenty one day's notice of all General Meetings shall be given in writing to all Member Associations and their appointed representatives who have given an address in the United Kingdom. General Meetings shall be open to all members of all associations, although only the appointed representatives of Full Member Associations shall be entitled to vote.

16. ALTERATION OF OBJECTS AND RULES

The Constitution may be altered by a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the votes of appointed representatives present and voting at a general meeting. The notice of the general meeting must include notice of the resolution or resolutions setting out the terms of the alteration or alterations proposed.

17. DISSOLUTION

Upon dissolution of the Forum any surplus assets of the Forum remaining after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities shall not be paid to nor distributed amongst the Member Associations but shall be given or transferred to such other organisation or organisations as the Forum in general meeting shall so determine.

18. INTERPRETATION

The Forum shall have full power to decide any question of interpretation of this Constitution and any other question on which this Constitution is silent.

ADOPTION OF CONSTITUTION

The original Constitution was adopted on 17 October 2005 by the associations listed and whose representative's names appear below:



Gillie La Haye

**Bowen Therapists' European
Register**



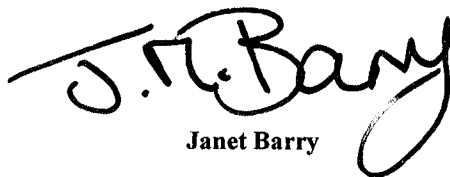
Karanne Rance

The Bowen Association UK



Angela Power

Bowen Practitioners' Association



Janet Barry

**Bowen Therapists' European
Register**



Peter Briant

The Bowen Association UK