

Community Network Discussion Paper Report to AANZPA AGM 2026

Judith McDonald 5 December 2025

Background

From June 30th 2025, the Community Network was established. This was the result of the motion that was passed at the AGM 2025. Full minutes available here.

The process so far

Early in July 2025, all legacy Affiliates were invited to become participants of the Community Network. Some people accepted this invitation, others formally resigned from AANZPA, and some have not responded either way.

Current Community Network joining criteria

Anyone who was an Affiliate on 30th June, 2025, is still able to become a Community Network participant up until the 2026 AGM in Wellington. This was to create a long transition time. From the AGM 2026 the criteria as it stands would be:

Someone who is currently an Associate and no longer wishes to be in training can move from being an Associate Member of AANZPA to the Community Network.

Community Network joining criteria from January 2026

The purpose of this discussion paper is to stimulate our thinking and debate about the criteria going forward for people to join the Community Network. It was signalled at the AGM 2025 that we could review the criteria for joining the network at the 2026 AGM.

Do we want to keep it as it is now? Or do we want to broaden the criteria to include other groups of people who may wish to join in the future?

Shall we broaden the criteria to join the Community Network?

As the Exec, we are holding in mind that the Community Network is a very new initiative, and that there is merit in holding the current joining criteria at status quo (people who move from Associate membership to participants of the Community Network if they leave training) for 2026. This could be reviewed again at the AGM in 2027 once we are one more year into assessing how it is going.

This is one possibility, and we also want to hear from our membership, and see where you have got to in your thinking about the Community Network joining criteria. Below are possible other joining scenarios we might consider before we make a decision at the AGM in January 2026.

Possible scenarios:

a) A person has completed psychodrama training with another organisation or in another country, has perhaps been to an AANZPA conference or two, and would like to become more involved in AANZPA by joining the Community Network.

- b) Someone has previously done several years training with AANZPA, in the recent or distant past, and has not been an Affiliate in this time. They would now like to reconnect with AANZPA, and become a Community Network participant.
- c) Regular attendees of the Open Evenings who have a passion for psychodrama but have no psychodrama training.

Some of the feedback we have received

"Be good to have people who have had training still feeling linked to AANZPA."

"This should be carefully considered, given we have only had this operating for a year."

"Need to be clear **that** this isn't an AANZPA membership category."

Please note

A motion will need to be moved by an Ordinary member, and that motion passed by Ordinary members, to bring about any change to the status quo.