

# **The professional liaison group on health, disability and registration recommendations**

## **Executive Summary and Recommendations**

### **Introduction**

At its final meeting on June 21<sup>st</sup>, the professional liaison group on health, disability and registration agreed to recommend to the Council final drafts of the documents that they were asked to write.

These documents are intended to address the queries and concerns that applicants, doctors, staff working on approved programmes, and many others have about:

- the role of the HPC;
- how this relates to obligations under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995;
- how we ensure that we treat disabled people fairly; and
- how, in doing this, we do not compromise our role of protecting the public.

The professional liaison group has therefore drafted the following two documents:

- ‘Becoming a registered health professional’

This document is for people with disabilities who want to become health professionals, and also for staff working in admissions on approved courses. It gives information for applicants about the stages they need to go through to become a health professional, including registration with us. It also gives information for admissions staff on their responsibilities under the Disability Discrimination Act, and to us, when they receive an application from a disabled person.

- ‘Information about the health reference’

This document gives information about our health reference, for applicants and for doctors who are asked to complete the reference for a patient.

### **Decision**

The Council is asked to agree to consult on the attached documents, with a view to publishing them on its website, in hard copy, and in alternative formats.

### **Background information**

The Council agreed to set up this PLG in July 2004. The membership included Council members, representatives from the Allied Health Professions Federation, representatives from education, and representatives from disability groups.

In completing its work, the group has met four times. Information about the PLG’s work has been posted on the HPC website.

**Resource implications**

Executive time in preparing the consultation documents, organising mailing, analysing responses, etc.

**Financial implications**

The costs of laying out the documents, and the consultation mailing. These will be taken from the Communications budget.

**Background papers**

None.

**Appendices**

The attached full text of the two documents:

- Becoming a registered health professional; and
- Information about the health reference.



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