

Council

Minutes of the 79th meeting of the Council meeting held as follows:-

Date: Thursday 18 October 2012

Time: 1:00 pm

Venue: Glen Luss Suite, The Lodge on Loch Lomond, Luss, Argyll G83 8PA

Present: Anna van der Gaag (Chair)
Pradeep Agrawal
Jennifer Beaumont
Frank Burdett
Mary Clark-Glass
John Donaghy
Sheila Drayton
Julia Drown
Richard Kennett
Jeff Lucas
Morag MacKellar
Penelope Renwick
Keith Ross
Robert Templeton
Eileen Thornton
Joy Tweed

In attendance:

Guy Gaskins, Director of IT (for items 1-16)
Abigail Goringe, Director of Education (for items 1-16)
Michael Guthrie, Director of Policy and Standards (for items 1-16)
Louise Hart, Secretary to Council
Teresa Haskins, Director of HR (for items 1-16)
Kelly Johnson, Director of Fitness to Practise (for items 1-16)
Jacqueline Ladds, Director of Communications (for items 1-16)
Tim Moore, Interim Director of Finance (for items 1-16)
Greg Ross-Sampson, Director of Operations (for items 1-16)
Marc Seale, Chief Executive and Registrar
Louise Shewey, Secretariat Team Administrator (for items 1-16)

Item 1.12/176 Chair's welcome and introduction

1.1 The Chair welcomed all members and EMT to the meeting.

Item 2.12/177 Apologies for absence

2.1 Apologies for absence were received from Arun Midha and Diane Waller.

Item 3.12/178 Approval of agenda

3.1 The Council approved the agenda.

Item 4.12/179 Declaration of Members' Interests

4.1 No interests were declared.

Item 5.12/180 Minutes of the Council meeting of 18 September 2012 (report ref:- HCPC124/12)

5.1 The Council considered the minutes of the 78th meeting of the Health and Care Professions Council.

5.2 With reference to the minute on the CHRE Strategic Review of the NMC on page eight, under 11.4, bullet two, it was noted that the suggestions made in relation to developing the management information were examples and so the words "for example" should be inserted. The sentence would then read "The suggestion was made that HCPC could develop the management information, *for example*, to include budgeted versus actual..." The Council agreed to the amendment.

5.3 The Council agreed that, subject to the amendment detailed under 5.2, the minutes should be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

Item 6.12/181 Matters arising (report ref:- HCPC125/12)

6.1 The Council considered the action list as agreed at the last meeting.

6.2 In relation to minute 12.4 "The Council agreed to instruct the Executive to begin initial discussions with the CQC about the recommendations" the Council noted preliminary discussions had been held with CQC and this had raised concern since whilst there was a licensing regime in place for care home managers, there was no fitness to practise regime in place. The Executive now planned to write to the Secretary of State setting out initial thoughts including the negative licensing proposal.

6.3 The Council noted the action list as agreed at the last meeting.

Strategy and Policy

Item 7.12/182 Annotation of the Register – qualifications in Clinical Neuropsychology (report ref:- HCPC 126/12)

- 7.1 The Council received a paper for discussion/approval from the Executive.
- 7.2 The Council noted that the HCPC had discretionary powers to annotate the Register. In December 2011, the Council had agreed a policy statement setting out the principles that HCPC would adopt in deciding whether or not to do so. The paper included background on the qualification, analysis of the risk to the public, fitness to practise considerations and supporting information, including a summary of responses to the consultation on annotating qualifications which related to neuropsychology.
- 7.3 The Council noted that the matter had been considered by the Education and Training Committee on 13 September 2012, which had recommended that the Council should not annotate the qualification in Clinical Neuropsychology on the register.
- 7.4 In discussion, the following points were made:-
- That there would be no benefit in annotating the Register since it would not bring into regulation those currently outside of regulation;
 - The practitioner psychologist member of the Education and Training Committee was supportive of the proposals within the paper;
 - That whilst the title “neuropsychologist” was not a protected title within HCPC, the British psychological Society held a specialist register for that division.
- 7.5 The Council agreed that it should not annotate the qualification in Clinical Neuropsychology on the register.

Item 8.12/183 Results of profession-specific standards of proficiency consultation for arts therapists (report ref:- HCPC127/12)

- 8.1 The Council received a paper for discussion/approval from the Executive. The paper included the results and analysis of a consultation on the profession-specific standards of proficiency for arts therapists.

8.2 The Council noted that the review of profession-specific standards had followed from the Council's approval of new generic standards of proficiency in March 2011.

8.3 The Council noted that the matter had been considered by the Education and Training Committee on 13 September 2012, which had recommended that the Council should approve the consultation response analysis and draft standards of proficiency for arts therapists.

8.4 In discussion, the following points were made:-

- Concern was expressed over the use of the term "diagnostic" and whether this was appropriate in these profession-specific standards. In response, the Council noted that this term had been used within the standards since 2002 and had not been raised as an issue before now or as part of the consultation process;
- The Council noted that there were a relatively low number of responses and, in response to a question on how Council could be assured that all was being done by the Executive to ensure engagement with the consultation process, the Council noted that every effort was made to engage with the profession during the consultation process. It could be argued that a relatively low response indicated that the profession was satisfied with the proposals. It was further noted that this profession was relatively small although those that had responded were key groups within the profession. However, going forward, a new online tool would be used for consultations which, it was hoped, may make future consultations more accessible;
- A query was raised as to why a standard relating to "leadership" had not been included in the profession-specific standards of proficiency for arts therapists. In response, the Council noted that the issue of "leadership" and in particular shared leadership competencies and their inclusion within the standards had been discussed at length in recent meetings of the Education and Training Committee. One of the issues raised was the practicalities for education providers in delivering this as a threshold standard. It was noted that following a decision to not include a specific standard on "leadership," a position statement had been agreed by the Education and Training Committee which articulated that the capabilities associated with "leadership" were already embedded within the standards;
- The suggestion was made that a standard relating to leadership should be integral within the standards and HCPC should look into having this within the generic standards of proficiency;

- It was noted that a mapping exercise had been carried out and this demonstrated that shared leadership competencies were in the existing standards and therefore did not need restating;
 - The Council requested that the position statement agreed by the Education and Training Committee be circulated to members of Council;
 - The Council agreed that the issue of including a specific standard relating to “leadership” was an ongoing and live debate and one that the Council should have an opportunity to discuss more fully in due course.
- 8.5 The Council approved the consultation response analysis for publication to the website and the revised draft standards of proficiency for arts therapists for publication (subject to minor editing changes).

Item 9.12/184 Results of profession-specific standards of proficiency consultation for orthoptists (report ref:- HCPC128/12)

- 9.1 The Council received a paper for discussion/approval from the Executive. The paper included the results and analysis of a consultation on the profession-specific standards of proficiency for orthoptists.
- 9.2 The Committee noted that the matter had been considered by the Education and Training Committee on 13 September 2012, which had recommended that the Council should approve the consultation response analysis and draft standards of proficiency for orthoptists.
- 9.3 The Council agreed that the issue of “leadership” as discussed under item 8 (Results of profession-specific standards of proficiency consultation for arts therapists) was also relevant to the discussion under this item.
- 9.4 The Council approved the consultation response analysis for publication to the website and the revised draft standards of proficiency for orthoptists for publication (subject to minor editing changes).

Corporate Governance

Item 10.12/185 Laptop allowance for Council and committee members (report ref:- HCPC129/12)

- 10.1 The Council received a paper for discussion/approval from the Executive.
- 10.2 The Council noted that in October 2009, with the view to reducing costs and to support sustainability, Council approval had been given to a

laptop allowance for members of Council and Committee. On receipt of a signed 'contract', members were given an allowance of £1,500 for the cost of purchasing a laptop (hardware, software, warranty, etc.) for the purpose of reading electronic Council and Committee papers. The contract, which was appended to the paper, set out the responsibilities of the member in terms of ensuring the maintenance and security of the laptop for a three year period.

- 10.3 The Council noted that in December 2011, the Department of Health (DH) had announced plans to restructure the Councils of the GMC, GDC and HCPC with a proposed composition of between 8 and 12 members. The DH did not believe that it was the right time for legislative reform to reduce the size of the HCPC's council in 2012 as HCPC was occupied in terms of taking on responsibility for the regulation of social workers in England. However, they stated that they expected to introduce legislation to do so by summer 2013.
- 10.4 The Council noted that on the basis that HCPC would be reduced in size by at least 40% and given that some turnover in terms of composition of Council was anticipated, the Executive did not consider it prudent to continue with the laptop allowance scheme for the time being. However, mindful that the end of the three year allowance period was approaching for some members and that it was likely that any warranty would only be in place until the end of that period, the Executive recommended changes to the laptop scheme.
- 10.5 The Council agreed:
- (1) that the laptop allowance scheme be temporarily discontinued until such time as the Council was restructured;
 - (2) that approval be given to, where possible, Council members extending the warranty and anti-virus software on their laptop for a further year, the cost being covered by HCPC (up to a maximum amount of £200); and
 - (3) where laptops bought under the laptop allowance were not functioning correctly and no warranty was in place, members should receive hard copies of Council and Committee papers with effect from the three year "anniversary" of receiving their allowance.

Item 11.12/186 Minutes of the Finance and Resources Committee held on 11 September 2012 (report ref:- HCPC130/12)

- 11.1 The Council received a paper for approval from the Executive.
- 11.2 The Council approved the recommendations therein.

The Council noted the following papers:-

Item 12.12/187 Indemnity Cover Arrangements as a condition of registration (report ref:- HCPC131/12)

Item 13.12/188 Minutes of the Education and Training Committee held on 13 September 2012 (report ref:- HCPC132/12)

Item 14.12/189 Any other business

14.1 There was no other business.

Item 15.12/190 Date and time of next meeting

15.1 The next meeting of the Council would be held at 10:30 am on Tuesday 4 December.

Item 16.12/191 Resolution

The Council agreed to adopt the following resolution:-

'The Council hereby resolves that the remainder of the meeting shall be held in private, because the matters being discussed relate to the following;

- (a) information relating to a registrant, former registrant or application for registration;
- (b) information relating to an employee or office holder, former employee or applicant for any post or office;
- (c) the terms of, or expenditure under, a tender or contract for the purchase or supply of goods or services or the acquisition or disposal of property;
- (d) negotiations or consultation concerning labour relations between the Council and its employees;
- (e) any issue relating to legal proceedings which are being contemplated or instituted by or against the Council;
- (f) action being taken to prevent or detect crime to prosecute offenders;
- (g) the source of information given to the Council in confidence; or
- (h) any other matter which, in the opinion of the Chair, is confidential or the public disclosure of which would prejudice the effective discharge of the Council's functions.'

Item	Reason for Exclusion
17	b, c, d, e, g, h
18	b
19	c, d
20	c, g

Item 17.12/192 Minutes of the private part of the Council meeting held on 18 September 2012 (report ref:- HCPC133/12)

17.1 The Council considered and agreed the minutes of the private part of the Council meeting held on 18 September 2012.

Item 18.12/193 Education and Training Committee appointments (report ref:- HCPC134/12)

18.1 The Council considered a paper relating to appointments to the Education and Training Committee.

18.2 The Council agreed to:-

- (i) the appointments of Joanna Watson (Occupational Therapist) and Hilary Tompsett (Social Worker) to the Education and Training Committee for terms of appointment until October 2014; and
- (ii) that the Executive should continue to advertise and seek expressions of interest for the hearing aid dispenser member of the Education and Training Committee and to convene an assessment and selection panel to consider applications as appropriate.

Item 19.12/194 Minutes of the private part of the Finance and Resources Committee held on 11 September 2012 (report ref:- HCPC135/12)

19.1 The Council received a paper for approval from the Executive.

19.2 The Council approved the recommendations therein.

The Council noted the following paper:-

Item 20.12/195 National Audit Office report (report ref:- HCPC136/12)

Item 21.12/196 Any other business for consideration in private

21.1 There were no other items for consideration in private.

Chair:

Date: