

Fitness to Practice Forum, 17 September 2008

Fitness to Practice training for Chairs and Panel members

Executive summary and recommendations

Introduction

Refresher training for panel chairs took place on 27 June 2008 and on 31 July and 1 August 2008 for new panel members.

Panel Chair refresher training is held every six months and aims to provide a forum for discussion and learning for the 12 Partners involved. The half day session tackled, amongst many issues: new HPC Standards of Conduct Performance and Ethics, a Fitness to Practise update, CHRE learning points, new Practice Notes, reasons and ICP decision making.

The new Panel Member two day training session was attended by 13 new FTP Partners. The two day session covered areas of; relevant legislation, conduct of hearings, equality and diversity, as well as practical sessions including engagement skills, decision making and sanctions.

Both sessions received very positive feedback from evaluation forms.

Decision

The Forum is requested to note the document. No decision is required.

Background information

Further refresher training days for existing panel members has been scheduled between September 2008 and March 2009. Around 120 panel members have accepted invitations to three sessions during this period.

A legal assessor review day is scheduled to take place on 5 September 2008.

Resource implications

The Partner team organise the training.

The Director of Fitness to Practise, Head of Case Management and Hearings Manager lead the training and organise the appropriate resources.

Financial implications

Partners receive a daily attendance fee and their expenses for attending the sessions. This has been budgeted for by the Partner's department.

Jonathan Bracken and Diane Hodgson attend some parts of the training sessions where appropriate.

Appendices

None

Date of paper

20 August 2008