
Council

Minutes of the 93rd meeting of the Council held as follows:-

Date: Thursday 16 October 2014

Time: 1pm

Venue: Cragwood Country House Hotel, Windermere, LA23 1LQ

Present:

Anna van der Gaag (Chair)
Elaine Brookes
Mary Clark-Glass
John Donaghy
Sonya Lam
Robert Templeton
Graham Towl
Joy Tweed
Nicola Wood
Richard Kennett

In attendance:

Guy Gaskins, Director of IT
Andy Gillies, Director of Finance
Abigail Gorringe, Director of Education
Michael Guthrie, Director of Policy and Standards
Teresa Haskins, Director of Human Resources
Kelly Holder, Director of Fitness to Practise
Jacqueline Ladds, Director of Communications
Louise Lake, Director of Council and Committee Services
Greg Ross-Sampson, Director of Operations
Marc Seale, Chief Executive and Registrar

Public Agenda – Part 1

Item 1.14/203 Chair's welcome and introduction

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed members to the 93rd meeting of the Council

Item 2.14/204 Apologies for absence

- 2.1 Apologies for absence were received from Sheila Drayton and Keith Ross.

Item 3.14/205 Approval of agenda

- 3.1 The Council approved the agenda and noted that enclosure 7, the minutes of the recent Education and Training Committee, would be presented by the Chair, Joy Tweed, not Elaine Brookes as stated on the agenda.

Item 4.14/206 Declaration of Members' Interests

- 4.1 No interests were declared.

Item 5.14/207 Minutes of the Council meeting of 1 and 2 September 2014 (report ref:- HCPC150/14)

- 5.1 The Council considered the minutes of the 92nd meeting of the Health and Care Professions Council.
- 5.2 With reference to the discussion on the Education Report (page 6 of the minutes of the meeting held on 24 September), it was noted that the meaning of the term "onboarding" in paragraph 13.2, may not be clear to members of the public not familiar with this term. It was agreed that the paragraph would be re-drafted.
- 5.3 In relation to the minutes of the discussion on the 5 year plan, page 7 of the minutes of the 2nd part of the meeting held on 25 September, the following was noted:-
- paragraph 10.5 should refer to "orthotists" not "orthoptists"; and
 - the Council approved the five year plan "in principle" subject to further work and submission of papers to Council.
- 5.4 The Council agreed the minutes, subject to the amendments set out under paragraphs 5.2 and 5.3.

Item 6.14/208 HCPC response to Department of Health consultation on the regulation of public health specialists from non-medical backgrounds

- 6.1 The Council received a paper for discussion from the Executive.
- 6.2 The Council noted that the Department of Health had now extended the period of consultation by four weeks and added two further questions to the consultation as follows:-
- Do you agree with the Department's decision that the HCPC should be the statutory regulator for public health specialists from backgrounds other than medicine or dentistry. If not, who and why?
 - Do you think that public health specialists should be regulated by another body? If so, who and why?
- 6.3 During discussion it was noted that the Department of Health had been challenged by the UK Public Health Register and so the consultation was amended in an attempt to avoid proceedings.
- 6.4 The Council noted that the extension of the consultation period would inevitably result in slippage in the introduction of legislation since it would not be possible to progress this within the current government's legislative timetable.
- 6.5 Concern was expressed that were the legislation to be delayed, Registration appeals would still need to be chaired by Council members. Given that four council members were due to leave in December 2014, there could be a risk in terms of not having a sufficient number of trained Council members to carry out this role. In response, the Council noted that the number of Registration appeals was fairly low and furthermore, three out of the four members leaving Council were on the Education and Training Committee and so were not eligible to Chair the Registration appeal panels.
- 6.6 The Council agreed that the response to the two additional questions should be drafted by the Executive and delegated authority be given for the Chair to approve the final response for submission.
- 6.7 The Council approved the response, subject to the two additional questions being approved by the Chair prior to submission.

The Council noted the following item:-

Item 7.14/209 Minutes of the Education and Training Committee held on Tuesday 9 September 2014 (report ref: HCPC152/14)

Item 8.14/210 Any other business

8.1 There were no further items for consideration.

Chair:

Date:

Unconfirmed