

Council – 3 December 2015

HCPC Email address for Council members

Executive summary and recommendations

Introduction

At a recent meeting of Council, the Executive were requested to give consideration to whether it would be appropriate for Council members to have '@hcpc-uk.org' email addresses. The Executive have had the opportunity to consider this and whilst from a technical perspective it would be wholly feasible, the following non-technical considerations have been highlighted:-

1. The decision to allocate HCPC email addresses should be seen as a policy, rather than an operational decision. This provides consistency and rationalises the administrative and resource effort. Consequently, the decision would need to be whether ALL Council members should use an HCPC email address for Council correspondence. When the issue was discussed at the Council meeting, there did not seem to be a consensus from all Council members to move to HCPC email addresses.
2. Council members are not 'representatives' of professions nor are they elected by their profession and so therefore they would not require an email address to correspond directly with their 'constituents';
3. In corresponding using an HCPC email address, individuals could be purporting to be conveying a view of the HCPC which may not in fact be widely held;
4. Should the Council members hold HCPC email addresses, they would be required to comply with any appropriate IT and Information Security Management policies in relation to the use of HCPC email including the application of data retention policies and information classifications.

The financial cost would be minimal although there would be an opportunity cost for reprioritising effort to set up the new service. On balance, the Executive consider that it would not be appropriate for Council members to have HCPC email addresses. However, should members wish to have their personal, cloud-based email accounts added to their ipads, this could be facilitated.

Decision

Council are requested to agree that they do not require '@hcpc-uk.org' email addresses. However, IT support will be provided should a member wish to have their personal, cloud-based email account made accessible from their HCPC ipad.

Background information

None

Resource implications

None although were Council minded to not support the recommendation of the Executive and have HCPC email addresses, there would be a resource implication which would need to be calculated.

Financial implications

None although were Council minded to not support the recommendation of the Executive and have HCPC email addresses, there would be an annual cost of £1,832 per year for twelve accounts.

Background papers

None

Appendices

None

Date of paper

12 November 2015