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Health Professions Council's - Strategic Intent 2005

Park House, 184 Kennington Road, London

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I. Foreword

Foreword ...

The Strategic Intent describes the Health Professions Council's (HPC) purpose, principles, standards & processes, organisation & issues to be resolved

- **Replaces HPC's Strategic Intent documents previously published in 2002 & 2004**
- **HPC's Strategic Intent is revised when there are significant changes to the operating environment**
 - It is anticipated that the recommendations of the Department of Health's reviews of medical and non-medical regulation, (the Foster & Donaldson reviews) will be published in early 2006

The HPC is an independent UK statutory regulator of healthcare professionals

- **Health Professions Order 2001**
 - Statutory Instrument (SI) established 1st April 2002
 - Rules & guidance support the SI
 - Initial Rules became operational 9th July 2003
- **Currently 13 Professions**
 - Arts Therapists, Biomedical Scientists, Chiropractors & Podiatrists, Clinical Scientists, Dietitians, Occupational Therapists, Operating Department Practitioners, Orthoptists, Paramedics, Physiotherapists, Prosthetists & Orthotists, Radiographers, Speech & Language Therapists
- **Self financing**
- **Reports to the Privy Council**
 - Body corporate

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II. Purpose

Objective ...

The objective of the HPC is set down in Article 3 (4) of the Health Professions Order 2001

- ***“To safeguard the health and well-being of persons using or needing the services of registrants***
- **Registrants are the healthcare professionals regulated by the HPC**

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III. Principles

The HPC uses six guiding principles

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- 1. Protect the public**
 - Review & amend legislation, standards, guidance & procedures to ensure their relevance & appropriateness
 - Have clear & well publicised complaints & appeals procedures for the public & registrants if dissatisfied with the decisions of the Council & Committees
- 2. Communicate & respond**
 - Ensure wide stakeholder input
 - Seek regular feedback from stakeholders & utilise the information & opinions received
- 3. Work collaboratively**
 - Collaborate with all stakeholders to ensure wherever possible that their needs are met
 - Enable best practices in any one profession to be accessed by all

The HPC operates using six guiding principles, (contd)

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- 4. Be Transparent**
 - Establish fast & accessible procedures
 - Undertake thorough consultations
- 5. Provide value for money & audit**
 - Invest in systems & procedures to provide a value for money services for registrants & the public
 - Be open & proactive in accounting to all stakeholders for the HPC's work
- 6. Deliver a high quality service**
 - Provide a unified service where issues are common & focus on individual activity when significantly different between professions
 - Support training & development of HPC employees as well as registrants

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IV. Standards & Processes

The HPC achieves its objective by managing an integrated process of setting standards & operating processes to maintain the standards

- **Standards**
 - Four sets of standards
 - ¶ Education & Training
 - ¶ Proficiency
 - ¶ Conduct, Performance & Ethics
 - ¶ Continuing Professional Development (CPD)
 - The HPC must consult before establishing standards, rules & guidance
 - HPC currently has no powers to undertake revalidation

- **Four integrated processes**
 - Approval of programs
 - Registration
 - ¶ UK, International & Grandparenting
 - ¶ New professions
 - ¶ Post registration qualifications
 - Fitness to Practise hearings
 - ¶ Protection of title prosecutions
 - CPD assessment

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V. Organisation

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