

**Health Professions Council**  
**Investigating Committee – 6<sup>th</sup> December 2005**  
**Introduction to Case Management**

**Executive Summary and Recommendations**

**Introduction**

The Fitness to Practise Department is currently in the process of producing a Fitness to Practise Benchbook.. The attached document is an introduction to this work.

Further, Article 32 (3) of the Health Professions Order 2001 (“the 2001 Order) enables Practice Committees to give directions for the conduct of cases and this power extends to the conduct of hearings. To improve the management of cases the Practice Committees are asked to approve the Standard Directions included in the attached document. These directions will then apply automatically as “default” directions in every case.

**Decision**

The Committee is asked to approve the document and in particular the standard directions contained within it.

**Background information**

There have been 10 instances since April 2005 where it has either not been possible to finish a case or there has been a necessity to adjourn a case. Standard Directions will help to ensure that the HPC is meeting its requirement to conduct fitness to practise proceedings expeditiously. Such directions will also assist in forecasting case load.

**Resource implications**

None

**Financial implications**

Effective management of available resources.

**Appendices**

None

**Date of paper**

27<sup>th</sup> October 2005



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