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MINUTES of the seventh meeting of the Registration Committee of the Health Professions Council held on Tuesday 12 November 2002 at Park House, 184 Kennington Park Road, London SE11 4BU.

PRESENT :

Prof. R. Klem – Chairman
Miss P. Sabine – Vice-Chairman
Mr. P. Frowen
Prof. N. Brook (ex-officio)
Mr. C. Lea (ex-officio)
Mr. G. Sutehall (ex-officio)

IN ATTENDANCE :

Miss L. Pilgrim – Director, HPC, Secretary to the Registration Committee
Mr M. Seale – Chief Executive / Registrar, HPC
Miss G. Malcolm – Director of Operations, HPC
Dr P. Burley – Director of Education and Policy, HPC
Mr C. Middleton – Director of Communications, HPC
Mr G. Ross-Sampson – Project Manager, HPC
Mrs. U. Falk – Manager of Education & Policy, HPC
Ms S. Dawson – Grandparenting Manager, HPC
Miss R. Bacon – Assistant (consultation process) HPC
Mr J. Bracken – Bircham Dyson Bell
Mrs. C. Gooch – Newchurch
Ms M. Collins – Newchurch

ITEM 1 APPOINTMENT OF MR I. MASSEY TO THE COMMITTEE

The Chairman welcomed the appointment of Mr I. Massey to the Committee.

ITEM 2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from :- Miss M. Crawford, Dr R. Jones, Mr I. Massey,
Ms E. Thornton, Dr A. van der Gaag, and Prof. D. Waller.

ITEM 3 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 September 2002 were agreed as a correct record save for the following amendments :-

Item 9.1 to be inserted as follows :

" Mr Seale confirmed that future dates for Council meetings would be set shortly. It would then be for the Committee Secretaries to arrange their meetings accordingly. Mr Seal said that there would be no Committee meetings on the morning of any Council meeting. "

ITEM 4 MATTERS ARISING

- (i) The Secretary confirmed that the meeting with the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP) had been arranged for 6 December 2002.
- (ii) The Secretary reported that interviews for new Occupational Therapy Assessors would take place on 11 December 2002. Miss D. Thompson, Human Resources Director, and Prof. C. Lloyd, alternate registrant OT member on HPC, would carry out the interviews.
- (iii) With respect to " Exceptional International Applicants " Miss G. Malcolm said that staff in the International Registration Department sent such applications to assessors rather than make any decisions themselves.
- (iv) Dr Burley said that Mrs S. Stirling had attended a training day at the Nursing & Midwifery Council (NMC) to report back to HPC on its effectiveness. Mr C. Lea confirmed that attendance at training days had been budgeted for but that finance had been delayed.

In answer to a question from Prof. Brook, Miss G. Malcolm confirmed that the training being given to assessors was in respect of work currently being carried out under the transitional provisions rather than work to be carried out after April 2003.

The Secretary reported that the next training day would be a Radiographers' training day on 14 November. Unfortunately none of the Committee members was able to attend on that date. It was **AGREED** that the Secretary would collate a list of any future training days and circulate details to Committee members as soon as they were available.

- (v) Mr Seale reported that he had met with representatives of the General Social Care Council. Their view, which accorded with that of the DoH, was that there should not be dual registration of health care professionals. If the health professional was registered with HPC and the issue of their performance arose then HPC would deal with it. The DoH would be reporting on this matter at their meeting in March 2003.

Mr Seale also responded to a query raised by Mr. G Sutehall concerning, in essence, the use of the term " non-state registered MLSO " and the level of supervision they received in their employment. Mr. Seale said that he had discussed the matter with the Council's legal advisers. The latter had advised that HPC could not take any action.

ITEM 5 GRANDPARENTING – MR J. BRACKEN

Mr Bracken explained that the criteria presented were a preliminary draft. Prof. Brook said that the Committee was looking at broad principles only at this stage and that the criteria had yet to be agreed by Council.

Prof. Klem noted that the criteria applied across all professions and that the wording should reflect this.

The application form would capture core / common information. Prof. Brook said that grandparenting applications would be linked to international applications. In response to a comment that grandparenting was not an alternative to applying as an international applicant. Mr. Bracken clarified that the grandparenting process applied to both U.K. and non-UKtrained applicants. He said that where a failed international applicant subsequently applied under the grandparenting process, the failure of the international application would be taken into account when considering the grandparenting application. Prof. Klem reminded the Committee that a grandparenting application process would need to be agreed and then be put to Council for approval.

It was confirmed that fees for applications and for the test of competence would be prescribed by the Privy Council.

The Committee noted that the matters listed at para. 6 were not the only matters to be considered.

ITEM 6 REGISTRATION OF INTERNATIONAL MLTs / BIOMEDICAL SCIENTISTS – MR A. POTTER

This item had been withdrawn. However, Mr. Seale said that he would be meeting with the Institute of Biomedical Science (IBMS) shortly to discuss the issue of international registration. He would seek advice from the Council's legal advisers.

ITEM 7 COMMITTEE'S RESPONSE TO THE FEEDBACK FROM THE CONSULTATION

This item would be discussed in the private session of the meeting jointly with the ETC.

ITEM 8 COUNCIL PROCESSES, LEAFLETS AND GUIDANCE NOTES

The Chairman thanked members of the working groups who had submitted information and noted that the approach to be taken had been identified. Further detailed information would be put together by the HPC Executive; this information would be fed back to the Committee by the Secretary.

ITEM 9 MINUTES OF THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMITTEE

The Committee noted these.

ITEM 10 APPEALS PROCEDURE

Mr. Bracken said that the Registration Committee was a formally constituted Committee. Review of assessors' decisions had been delegated to the Chairman of the Registration Committee. Any profession-specific issues would be discussed with the relevant registrant Council member.

ITEM 11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

ITEM 12 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held on 29 January 2003 at 10.00 a.m. at HPC, Park House, 184 Kennington Park Road, London SE11 4BU.

ITEM 13 MEETING IN PRIVATE

It was

RESOLVED

that the remainder of the meeting be held in private because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest, by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

CHAIRMAN