

Health Professions Council

11 September 2007

Fitness to Practise – Joint Forum Constitution

Executive summary and recommendations

Introduction

At the 31 May 2007 meeting of Council it was agreed that the Fitness to Practise Committees should meet as a joint forum at their April and September meetings and that following the completion of the forum each committee would hold a separate committee meeting at which any recommendations from the forum would be considered and, if thought appropriate, ratified.

The attached paper sets out a proposed constitution for the Joint Forum. The Council should note that the Forum is intended to be an informal advisory body and must not become, or appear to be, a decision-making body. That function is reserved by law to the three practice committees.

The constitution should not be regarded as standing orders and for the reasons detailed above does not include provisions regarding quorum, rules of debate etc.

Decision

The Council/Committee is asked to agree the attached constitution for the Practice Committee Forum.

Background information

See paper HPC/69/07 included on May 2007 Council agenda and minute 20.07/69 of 31 May 2007 Council minutes

Resource implications

None

Financial implications

None

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Practice Committee Forum Constitution

Date of paper

29 August 2007

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APPENDIX 1

Health Professions Council

FITNESS TO PRACTISE - JOINT FORUM CONSTITUTION

1. The Practice Committee Forum (the Forum) is an advisory body of HPC and its function is to facilitate discussion among members of HPC's statutory Practice Committees of matters which are of common or mutual interest to those committees.
2. The members of the Forum shall be all of the members for the time being of the Practice Committees.
3. The Forum shall meet:
 - A. twice a year, on the same days that the Practice Committees hold concurrent meetings; and
 - B. at such other times as the chairmen of the Practice Committees may jointly determine.
4. Meetings of the Forum shall be chaired by the chairman of the Conduct and Competence Committee or, in his or her absence, the chairman or deputy chairman of a Practice Committee.
5. The agenda for each meeting of the Forum shall be jointly determined by the chairmen of the Practice Committees and circulated to members (with any associated papers) at least 7 days before the meeting to which the agenda relates is due to take place.
6. Meetings of the Forum shall be held in public but the chairman may exclude the public if the business under consideration is a matter which, if it was being considered by a Practice Committee, would justify that Committee in excluding the public whilst the matter was considered.