

Council, Thursday 29 March 2012

Organisational name change – consequential amendments to standards and guidance documents

Executive summary and recommendations

Introduction

The change of name from the Health Professions Council to the Health and Care Professions Council (subject to the successful passage of the Health and Social Care Bill through Parliament) will require the Executive to make consequential amendments to standards and associated guidance documents.

Decision

The Council is asked to agree that it will not require the Executive to consult publically on consequential amendments to standards and associated guidance documents, because these changes are brought about by legislation and are a consequence of the organisation's change of name. The Education and Training Committee approved a version of this paper on Thursday 8 March 2012.

Background information

Part II, 14 and Part IV, 14 (b) of the Health Professions Order 2001 outline the Committee and Council's role in approving and consulting on standards and guidance documents. Consultations on revisions to the standards of education and training, and the standard of proficiency for social workers in England have already taken place. This paper relates to the remaining standards and associated guidance documents. The Executive have taken independent legal advice before bringing the proposal to not consult externally on these changes to the Council. The publications concerned include the following.

- Standards of conduct performance and ethics
- Guidance on conduct and ethics for students
- Standards of proficiency (for 15 professions)
- Your guide to our standards for continuing professional development (A5)
- Continuing professional development and your registration (A4)
- How to complete your continuing professional development profile (A5)
- Returning to practice
- Periods of adaptation

- Education publications
 - Standards of education and training guidance
 - Annual monitoring
 - Approval process

- Major change
- An introduction to our education processes
- Fitness to practise publications / documents
 - How to raise a concern
 - What happens if a concern is raised about me?
 - The fitness to practise process
 - Information for witnesses
 - Practice Notes
- Policy / guidance publications
 - A disabled persons guide to becoming a health professional
 - Confidentiality – guidance for registrants
 - Guidance on health and character
 - Managing fitness to practise

The changes will include, but may not be limited to:

- changing the organisation's logo;
- changing references to the name of the organisation from the Health Professions Council to the Health and Care Professions Council;
- changing references to the 'Health Professions Order 2001' to the 'Health and Social Work Professions Order 2001'; and
- removing medical or clinical terminology (if / where still present) to better reflect the organisation's expanded remit (eg 'patient', 'treatment' etc).

Other minor editorial amendments will be made where necessary (for example to make language consistent, ensure compliance with house style, correct any errors, and update the publication date). This paper should be read in conjunction with the paper relating to amendments to application forms, and the paper relating to amendments to communication materials.

Note on approach

The intention is to have revised publications ready in time for the transfer of the regulation of social workers in England to the HPC / HCPC, currently Wednesday 1 August 2012. It is not proposed that any 'historical' publications will be republished (such as previous annual reports or research publications).

Resource implications

The resources (employee time) required to make these amendments are identified and allocated within the name change project.

Financial implications

The cost of making these amendments are identified and allocated within the name change project, which is funded by the Department of Health.

Date of paper

Monday 19 March 2012