

Executive Summary and Recommendations – Information for Investigating Panels

Introduction

Article 26(2)(c) of the Health Professions Order 2001 states that the Investigating Committee shall take such steps as reasonably practicable to obtain as much information as possible about the case. This paper asks the Investigating Committee to authorise persons appointed as HPC case managers and the Director of Fitness to Practise to seek this information.

Decision

The Committee is asked to agree the following

That persons appointed as HPC Case Managers and the Director of Fitness to Practise are authorised to request as much information as possible about the case. Examples are as follows:

- (a) In cases where a registrant has been convicted or cautioned for an offence (if the information is not included in the notice) to request information regarding the circumstances of the conviction. For example, whether the registrant was on duty at the time of the offence
- (b) In cases where the HPC has been advised by the employer, the panel often require any capability proceedings/disciplinary proceedings that the trust has undertaken.

This list is not an exhaustive list and there may be other items that the Committee wish that the Fitness to Practise team obtain prior to a panel meeting.

Background information

The HPC fitness to practise team are responsible for the management of allegations against health professionals to the effect that their fitness to practise is impaired. This paper asks the Investigating Committee to recommend when and where further information should be sought. This will assist in the smooth running of panels of the Investigating Committee and help to ensure that the panel can make a decision on whether there is a case to answer without the need to ask for further information.

The Case Managers and Director of Fitness to Practise are authorised persons under Article 25(1) to require disclosure of information it is relevant to the discharge of the fitness to practise function.

Standard Letter requesting observations
Article 26 of the Health Professions Order

Resource implications

None

Financial implications

None

Background papers

None

Appendices

None

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