
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Held on Wednesday 5 August 2020, Teams Meeting at 10am

- Present: Moira Sibbald (MS) - Lay Chair
Tamara Abood (TA), BACP Committee Member
Stacey Goldman (SG), BACP Committee Member
Philip Matthews (PM), Lay Committee Member
Velia Soames (VS), Lay Committee Member
- In attendance: Ian Ascroft (IA), Temporary Governance Manager
Fiona Ballantine Dykes (FBD), Chief Professional Standards Officer
Christina Docchar (CD), Registrar
Beckie Grace (BG), Assistant Registrar - Entry and Maintenance
Sarah Millward (SM), Administration Manager (Item 31/20 only)
John O'Dowd (JOD), Assistant Registrar - Professional Conduct
Tracy Shrimpton (TS), Clerk
Haydn Williams (HW), Chief Executive

26/20 Welcome, Apologies and Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were received from Jo Burns, Ewan Malcom and Mervyn Wynne-Jones. The Chair passed on thanks to the BACP team for their work in supporting members during the difficult times.

There were no new declarations of conflicts of interest.

27/20 Minutes of the last meeting 20 May 2020

- **Accuracy** - The minutes of the meeting were agreed as an accurate record.
- **Matters Arising** - Paper A was noted with additional comments as follows:

The Governance and Committee pages on the website should be reviewed with the view to increasing the information they contain. *Updates to webpages will be managed by the Governance Manager for completion by August 2020. This is ongoing.*

Action: IA

09/20 Committee Conversations report: Does the survey of members ask the correct questions to get a good understanding of Public Protection? CD/FBD/MS to hold virtual meeting and bring to a later meeting. CD informed the committee that two questions in

relation to public protection had been added into the membership survey, which closed end of July. The data is currently being analysed and an update would be made available to the Committee in November.

Action: CD/FBD

28/20 Draft Public Protection Strategy Paper

CD introduced the circulated paper and confirmed the strategy has a four-year timeframe.

The Committee agreed that generally the strategy for public protection was clearly articulated. Following discussion, the following actions would be taken:

- That there should be development between goals 3 and 4 regarding the concept of learning for members.
- That the wording in goal 1 be changed from '*including*' the public to '*in particular*' the public.
- That the strategy be clearly represented in the departmental tactical plan and progress towards achieving be monitored through Key Performance Indicators.

The Chair would forward to CD comments from MWJ relating to language and clarity. A revised paper would be brought back to the Committee at its November meeting.

Action: CD

29/20 Department Risk Register

CD spoke to Paper C and appendix Ci.

The Committee asked for the following changes:

- That the risk in relation to costs in risk 2 be clarified by the addition of the word 'increased'.
- That the false advertising misuse of logo risk be clarified in relation to application of both non-BACP members and BACP members.
- That the social media interaction in the Practitioner risk register make mention of potential expansion of the Ethical Framework to include member to member complaints.

A discussion ensued in relation to the Register and the possible changes taking place within the Professional Standards Authority and the potential impact on BACP, public protection and the Register. FBD, HW and CD would highlight risks at a PSA meeting scheduled for the following week.

30/20 New Ways of Working update

JO'D spoke to Paper D and highlighted the benefits of working with external suppliers in terms of sharing knowledge and good practice from other regulators.

The CEO and Committee congratulated the team on the work which was taking place on external outsourcing and looked forward to seeing how the new ways of working developed.

31/20 Ask Kathleen Relaunch

SM was welcomed to the meeting and introduced the Paper E. SM informed the Committee there was a very tentative launch date of 10th October 2020.

The relaunch and renaming of the service was welcomed by the Committee and the skills required to handle calls into the service acknowledged by both the Committee and CEO.

32/20 Reports

Report from Chief Professional Standards Officer: FBD spoke to Paper F and informed the Committee of the intended phased return of staff to BACP House from September.

It was noted that the membership survey analysis was still underway and the overall trend appeared to be an increase in membership satisfaction. FBD reported that at first sight there was generally very good support for the work of BACP around public protection. Further analysis of the responses especially around public protection would be brought to the Committee in November.

Action: FBD

FBD gave an overview of the BACP SCoPEd round table meeting with other accredited registers. It was noted that the PSA Head of Accreditation had been present as an observer and this had led to an invitation for a further meeting between BACP and the PSA.

Registrar: CD spoke to the Paper G, highlighting item 4 relating to the PSA's review of its Accredited Register Programme.

It was noted that the PSA has confirmed that the Register was successfully re-accredited on 31 July 2020 and a statement confirming this would be circulated to members.

It was also noted that as the date of reaccreditation was delayed by the PSA, the re-accreditation application may be rescheduled. It was agreed that possible implications for the production of the PPC annual report be discussed in a separate meeting between the Chair, the Chief Professional Standards Officer and the Registrar.

Action: FBD/CD/MS

Assistant Registrar PC: JO'D spoke to Paper I, highlighting some delays with hearings in phase 2 due to IT issues and giving details of work on phase 3 of the virtual hearings. It was noted that a project group was working on the details that needed consideration as a matter of priority. The Committee was impressed at the work which had been undertaken and hoped that the speed of the work would continue sharing the concern of the Registrar's team of the impact of delayed hearings.

Assistant Registrar E&M: BG spoke to the Paper H and highlighted that BACP had decided to cancel all face to face events for 2020, including the Certificate of Proficiency event. It was noted that the team was working with membership to ensure members were not penalised for not being able to take the test due to the COVID-19 restrictions.

33/20 Upstream prevention - Employers

This item was rescheduled for the November meeting of the Committee.

Action: Clerk

34/20 Committee Recruitment

The Committee noted that advertisements with Reach Volunteering for further committee representation had been unsuccessful. Following this, a LinkedIn BACP profile has been created and work was now underway with BACP's Communications team department to advertise for volunteers in different ways.

The following were given as suggestions for avenues to explore:

- Those who had expressed interest in vacancies for the Governor's role
- PARN
- Other mental health charities for lay members
- Facebook pages
- Therapy Today

Action: IA

35/20 Future dates for next meeting

The Clerk invited the Committee to indicate which dates were not possible on a pre-circulated list. A Doodle poll would be circulated with the further narrowed down dates.

Action: Clerk

36/20 AOB

There was no other business.

37/20 Date of Next Meeting

12 November 2020, 10.00am to 1.00pm, via Microsoft Teams.

SIGNED: DATED:

Circulation List:
PPC Committee
Board of Governors
SMT