Council Meeting – 10 February 2009

FEE CHANGE UPDATE

Executive summary and recommendations

Introduction
This paper provides a brief progress update on the forthcoming fee change.

Decision
The Council is requested to ratify the amended Fee Rule changes that were recently sent to Council members for electronic approval.

Background information
A paper highlighting the forthcoming fee rule changes was presented to the Council on 1 October and 11 December 2008. Since then, the Department of Health have made further minor amendments to the Registration and Fees Amendment Rules 2008. Following clearance of the changes by Department of Health lawyers (including Plain English compliance) and Council approval of the amendments, the remaining steps are to obtain final approval from the Department of Health, obtain Privy Council approval and have the Rules laid in Parliament.

Other final aspects of the project are on track, including Registrant Advisor training, changes to the Application forms and forthcoming changes to the fees table in the Netregulate system.

At the time of writing, our expectation is that the fee rise will still meet the 1 April go live date.

Resource implications
Nil

Financial implications
Nil

Appendices
Amended Fee Rules

Date of paper
29 January 2009
The Health Professions Council has made the Health Professions Council (Registration and Fees) (Amendment) Rules 2009, as set out in the Schedule to this Order, in exercise of the powers conferred by articles 7(1) and (2), 9(2), 33(7) and 41(2) of the Health Professions Order 2001, having consulted in accordance with articles 7(1) and (3) and 41(3) of that Order.

In accordance with articles 41(1) and 42 of that Order, such Rules shall not come into force until approved by order of the Privy Council.

Their Lordships, having considered the Rules, are pleased to and do approve them.

This Order may be cited as the Health Professions Council (Registration and Fees) (Amendment) Rules Order of Council 2009 and comes into force on 1st April 2009.

Judith Simpson
Clerk of the Privy Council

(a) S.I. 2002/254. See paragraph 1 of Schedule 3 to the Order for the definition of “prescribed” which is relevant to the powers being exercised.
SCHEDULE

The Health Professions Council (Registration and Fees) (Amendment) Rules 2009

The Health Professions Council makes the following Rules in exercise of the powers conferred by articles 7(1) and (2), 9(2), 33(7) and 41(2) of the Health Professions Order 2001, having consulted in accordance with articles 7(1) and (3) and 41(3) of that Order.

Citation and commencement

1. These Rules may be cited as the Health Professions Council (Registration and Fees) (Amendment) Rules 2009 and come into force on 1st April 2009.

Amendment of the Health Professions Council (Registration and Fees) Rules 2003

2.—(1) The Health Professions Council (Registration and Fees) Rules 2003(a) are amended as follows.

(2) In rule 14(b) (registration fee)—
   (a) in paragraph (1)(a), for “£72” substitute “£76”; and
   (b) in paragraph (1)(b), for “£144” substitute “£152”.
(3) In rule 15(c) (renewal fee), for “£144” substitute “£152”.
(4) In rule 15A(d) (readmission fee), for “£254” substitute “£267”.
(5) In rule 16(e) (restoration fee), for “£254” substitute “£267”.
(6) In rule 17(f) (scrutiny fee)—
   (a) in paragraph (1), for “£50” substitute “£53”; and
   (b) in paragraph (2), for “£400” substitute “£420”.

Sealed with the common seal of the Health Professions Council on 10th February 2009

Anna van der Gaag
President

Marc Seale
Registrar

EXPLANATORY NOTE
(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order approves Rules made by the Health Professions Council (HPC) that amend the fees it charges for scrutinising and processing applications for admission to its register, for renewal of
registration and for readmission or restoration to its register. These fees have been raised by between 5% and 6%.

The standard fee for registration, or renewal of registration, is now £152 (up from £144), although this is reduced to £76 (up from £72) in the case of applicants with an approved qualification who have qualified in the previous two years. Applicants for readmission or restoration to its register must pay £267 (up from £254).

Additionally, the two ‘scrutiny’ fees charged by the HPC have been increased. These are separate fees paid by all applicants for registration in the HPC register whose qualifications (and in some cases experience) need to be assessed – typically, first time registrants. The scrutiny fee is £53 (up from £50) for applicants relying on approved United Kingdom qualifications and £420 (up from £400) for all other applicants.