

**Agenda Item 7**

**Enclosure 3**

**Health and Care Professions Council  
19 September 2018**

**Chair's report**

**For discussion**

**From Stephen Cohen, Deputy Chair of HCPC**

Council, 19 September 2018

## Chair's report to Council

This paper provides Council with a summary of the activities that the Deputy Chair has undertaken since the last Council meeting. Meetings attended since the last report was considered by Council are all listed within the appendix.

### **External engagement**

Over the last two months I have begun a programme of meeting external stakeholders (as set out in the appendix)

An introductory meeting with the PSA was particularly constructive. Areas covered included the departure of the outgoing Chair of Council, the expected future HCPC fees consultation and the transfer of social worker regulation.

The PSA were responsive to the concern raised by myself and the Chief Executive regarding the risks to public protection and the HCPC should the project to establish Social Work England be unsuccessful. As a result, a meeting between the PSA, HCPC and Social Work England has been arranged for 20 September to explore the risks of the transfer.

### **Regulatory landscape**

Discussions with Civil Servants has indicated that a decision on the regulation of Physicians Associates may be announced soon.

Wider legislative reform through Section 60 orders has also been raised, however this requires parliamentary time which may not be forthcoming given the government's current priorities.

Key messages from external stakeholder engagement regarding regulation include the need for the regulators to cooperate and share information effectively and that regulators should engage more with the prevention agenda.

### **Executive engagement**

I have spent significant time engaging with the Executive team, collectively and a one to one basis, to ensure I am up to date with plans and current issues.

Members will note that one consequence of this engagement on issues was the proposal to allocate additional funding for FTP improvement work. I would like to thank members for their support and responsiveness on this proposal. The detail of how the funding will be used is set out under agenda item 13, the Executive will address members questions under this item.

### **Governance**

To support the HCPC's governance structure, I have engaged with the Chairs of the Audit, Education and Training and Remuneration Committees to understand their Committee's priorities in the coming year, I fully support the agendas set out by the Chairs and encourage the Committees in driving these forward.

### **Strategy**

I have worked with the Executive Director of Policy and External Relations and consultant Caroline Pung on refining our draft Strategy. I am keen that engagement with employees forms part of the development of the strategy. This is currently underway. It is planned that the Council will finalise the strategy at the strategic away day in October 2018.

The Strategic Risk Register will be considered by the Audit Committee in September for approval. Operationalisation of the register is expected in Q4 of 2018-19.

Finally, I would like to thank members for their support and engagement over the summer months following my nomination as Deputy Chair.

## Acting Chair – Stephen Cohen

1. Care Quality Commission event, David Behan, London 10 July
  - This was a networking event a number of stakeholder contacts were made which will be followed up with meetings.
2. General Dental Council, Bill Moyes, Chair 17 July
  - Mutual organisational update and discussion of views of current regulatory matters.
3. Care Quality Commission, Ursula Gallagher, Deputy Chief Inspector Professor, London 6 August
  - Ursula was keen to explore how CQC and HCPC could cooperate more closely and share concerns.
4. Care Quality Commission, Peter Wyman, Chair 7 August
  - Introductory meeting, Kark Review and “fit & proper” issue were discussed.
5. Professional Standards Authority, Harry Cayton, Chief Executive and George Jenkins, Chair, London 8 August
  - Along with the HCPC’s Chief Executive, we discussed the Chair transition process, plans for considering a fee increase and risk concerning the transfer of social worker regulation.
6. General Medical Council, Terence Stephenson, Chair, London 14 August

- Introductory meeting, discussion focused on the Williams Review and lessons learnt from prevention outreach programs.
7. Department of Health Northern Ireland, Hazel Winning, Allied Health Professional Lead, Peter McAuley, Deputy Principal, Allied Health Professionals, Peter Barbour, Principal, Healthcare Policy Group, 28 August
    - Very positive meeting, we discussed the need for a fee increase, which was understood and the potential for the HCPC to assist in workforce planning data.
  8. Pharmaceutical Society Northern Ireland, Dr Jim Livingstone, Chair, Belfast 28 August
    - Similarly positive, we discussed an informal meeting of Regulators' Chairs. PSNI were keen for HCPC to use PSNI space for local NI HCPC Tribunal hearings.
  9. Royal Society for Public Health, Shirley Cramer, Chief Executive, London 29 August
    - Discussed possible cooperation on research, Head of Policy has made contact.
  10. Scottish Government, Jason Birch, Interim Unit Head, Directorate for Chief Nursing Officer, Edinburgh 4 September
    - Discussed possible fee increase and Scottish Government view of this. Prescribing rights uptake and prevention agenda also discussed.
  11. General Medical Council (Scotland), Nicola Cotter, Head of Scotland office, Edinburgh 4 September
    - Very informative discussion on GMC's outreach programme and prevention agenda. Discussed GMC's physical presence in Scotland.
  12. Nursing and Midwifery Council, Philip Graf, Chair 6 September

13. Allied Health Professions Federation Board meeting, London 11 September
14. General Osteopathic Council, Alison White, Chair, London 11 September
15. Meeting the HCPC Plymouth 13 September
- 14 Department of Health, Claire Armstrong, Deputy Director, Professional Regulation Branch 18 September  
Workforce Division, Gavin Lerner, Director of Workforce| Acute Care and Workforce, London