

Agenda Item 8

Enclosure 4

**Health and Care Professions Council
14 February 2019**

Chief Executive's report

For discussion

**From Marc Seale, Chief Executive and
Registrar**

Chief Executive's report – 14 February 2019

1. Key performance updates to highlight to the Council

General summary

Since the last meeting of the Council our focus of attention has been on:

- Ensuring that we deliver data to SWE in terms of both the timetable and the quality of the data.
- Preparing the draft 2019-2020 Annual Budget taking into account the high degree of uncertainty surrounding the SWE timetable.
- Monitoring of new FTP complaints and contingency planning to consider options to adjust our capacity in the short term to deal with the continued increase in demand.

Financial performance for the 9 months ended 31 December 2018

- Council will be considering a separate paper on the 2018-19 month 9 forecast. Below, I have provided a brief highlight on the income and expenditure position at the end of December 2018.
- The income forecast from registration fees for 2018-19 is £34.4m, which is £108k / 0.3% below the month 6 forecast. This is mainly due to a reduction in international scrutiny fees.
- We are projecting that for the full year, total expenditure will be £35.5m. If we exclude the social worker transfer project, total expenditure is projected to be £34.5m; this is £225k under the original budget and £504k under the month 6 forecast. This is mainly due to under forecasts in a number of departments resulting from timing differences, vacant posts and lower training costs (resulting from a focus on e-learning design and delivery). It is also in part due to the slower response rate from social workers returning their CPD profiles meaning the audit days have been moved to other months.
- The overall position is a forecasted surplus of £44k, compared to the original budget deficit of £95k, and a deficit of £382k per month 6 forecast.

Education

- We are scheduled to complete 76 approval visits by the end of the financial year. This is slightly less than the budget reforecast of 81 because five visits were cancelled by education providers. We continue to take 13 months to

complete approval cases. As previously reported to Council, this is higher than the 9 months we aim for, because it is heavily influenced by education providers requesting visit dates in excess of the minimum 6 months we require. So far, we have received 214 major change notifications, which is comparable to the previous year to date period.

- The review of our quality assurance approach to education continues. Membership of the working group has been confirmed and meetings have been scheduled for February and March.

Fitness to Practise

- The number of new cases received continues to fluctuate. We are continually monitoring this and reviewing resources to ensure Case Managers are able to log new cases within the service standards whilst also progressing their open caseloads. The length of time (from receipt to final hearing) has slightly decreased (to 84.7 weeks in November) and, as previously reported to Council, we continue to target concluding the oldest open cases.
- On 14 January 2019, we launched the new Threshold Policy for investigations. This sets out the new approach to investigating concerns in the early stages, ensuring more high risk and serious cases are prioritised and advanced

Registrations

- In December, we received 1009 UK applications (32% more than the same period last year) and a total of 352 international applications (an increase of 27% compared to the same period last year). These were all processed within the agreed service standards.
- By 30 November 2018, 93.6% of social workers in England and 96.9% of operating department practitioners renewed their registration with us.
- The CPD online service has been soft launched with some operating department practitioners using the system and encouraged to provide us with feedback.

2. Key updates to highlight to the Council

The following is a summary of key updates for the Council's attention.

Transfer of regulation to Social Work England (SWE)

- We continue to liaise closely with SWE. In January the Deputy Chair and I met with SWE, the Departments of Health and Education and the Professional Standards Authority. This was to discuss SWE's progress against their project timeline, readiness to transfer and possible transfer date.

The HCPC and SWE project boards met at the beginning of February. We discussed transitional arrangements, standards development and communications. We understand SWE will be consulting towards the end of February on their registration rules, professional standards, and on their rules relating to education and training and fitness to practise.

3. Meetings attended

A list of the meetings attended since the last Council meeting is attached.

Overview of meetings attended by Chief Executive and Registrar

Professional Bodies

Many meetings attended relate to our ongoing conversation with the Professional Bodies of the 16 professions that we regulate. The main topic of discussion have been the current consultation on our future fees. Other topics included:

- CPD – online
- Council appointments
- Prevention agenda
- PAs and Sonography
- Regulatory Reform
- Standards of Proficiency review
- SWE
- Web site

Department of Health and Social Care

The Senior Management Team visited the DH in Leeds on 18 December. We usually aim to visit Leeds four times a year. We use the meetings to share our respective organisations future plans. In addition, the range of topics on the agenda, are usually in line with Council papers and our meetings with the Professional Bodies.

Health and Social Care Regulators Forum

The HSCRF is a regular meeting of Chief Executives of the CQC, GDC, GMC, NMC. The PSA and the DH also attend, as does the Local Government Ombudsman and the Parliamentary and Health Services Ombudsman. The main purpose of the Forum is to ensure that there is cooperation between the key organisations that should identify failures in the healthcare delivery system.

A key process that we collectively manage is the ***Emerging concerns protocol*** which is an agreement to share information about emerging concerns with each other and system partners in a timely fashion.

Meeting schedule period covering 7 December – 5 February

College of Paramedics Gerry Egan, Chief Executive and John Martin Chair, HCPC	10 December
British Psychological Society Sarab Bajway, Chief Executive, HCPC	11 December
Social Work England Joint project meeting, HCPC	11 December
General Chiropractic Council Tricia McGregor, Interim Chief Executive and Mary Chapman, Chair, HCPC	12 December
College of Podiatry Steve Jamieson, Chief Executive	12 December
The Association of Educational Psychologists Council meeting, Loughborough	14 December
Department of Health and Social Care Claire Armstrong, Deputy Director, Professional Regulation Branch, Leeds	18 December
General Teaching Council for Scotland Ken Muir, Chief Executive, Edinburgh	19 December
Scottish Government Jason Birch, Interim Unit Head, Edinburgh	19 December
AHP into Action Programme Board meeting HCPC	15 January
Health and Social Care Regulators Forum London	16 January
Institute of Physics and Engineering in Medicine Rosemary Cook, Chief Executive and Iain Threlkend, Registrar, HCPC	22 January
Institute of Biomedical Science London	25 January
Chief Executives Steering Group London	29 January
Social Work England Sheffield	1 February

HCPC Stakeholder Event Edinburgh	5 February
The Allied Health Professions Federation Scotland Edinburgh	5 February