

Health, disability and registration professional liaison group – update

Executive Summary and Recommendations

Introduction

On the 15/7/04 the Council agreed to set up a professional liaison group to look at health, disability and registration with the aim of issuing specific guidance

The following organisations were contacted and asked if they would like to nominate someone to sit on the group:

Professional body representation

- The Allied Health Professions Federation

The AHPF were asked to nominate two people from their membership, as a way of ensuring representation from professional bodies without creating a body of unmanageable size.

Representation from education

- University of Ulster
- Robert Gordon University
- Glasgow Caledonian
- Coventry University
- Queen Margaret University College
- Salford University

We went through the approved course list and identified those institutions which offered pre-registration programmes for the largest number of professions. This led to the six institutions above, all of whom were asked if they wanted to nominate someone.

Patient and consumer groups

- POPAN (the Prevention of Professional Abuse Network)
- The Consumers Association
- National Consumer Council
- Patients Association
- Patients' Forum

Groups representing or campaigning for people with a disability

- MIND
- RNIB
- DEAC
- British Council of Disabled People
- Skill
- Mental Health Foundation
- Disability Rights Commission

- RADAR
- Scope

Council members

Council members were asked to contact Rachel Tripp with an expression of their interest and some supporting information about their interest /expertise in this area.

In addition, a notice was placed on the front page of the website stating that the group was being set up, and interested individuals could download supporting information, and a copy of the nomination letter, in order to get involved.

Response

A good number of responses were received, including some responses from people and organisations who had seen the information online. In particular, there was a good response from disability groups, but unfortunately none of the patient or consumer groups could nominate someone by the deadline.

The following were identified as members

Mary Crawford (chair)

Shaheen Chaudhry

Robert Jones

Sandy Yule

Patricia McClure, University of Ulster

Vincent Mackay, Glasgow Caledonian University

Kate Goddard, Skill: National Bureau for Students with Disabilities

Haresh Sood, British Council of Disabled People

Dianne Keetch, Disability Rights Commission

Sheena McBride, RNIB

Karen Atkinson, Chartered Society of Physiotherapy Council member

Anna Wood, Education Officer at the College of Occupational Therapists

(both of the above were nominated by the Allied Health Professions Federation)

Jean White, Health Professions Wales

The proposed membership has several strengths, including home country representation, and good representation of disability groups. An issue for the group to consider will be ways of ensuring good profession-specific input.

The next step

We are now in the process of writing to these people to confirm that their nomination has been successful, to collect full contact details, and identifying possible dates for a first meeting.

Decision

This paper is to note only. No decision is required.

Resource Implications

As detailed in the proposal agreed by Council on 15 July 2004.

Financial Implications

As detailed in the proposal agreed by Council on 15 July 2004.

Background Papers

None

Appendices

None

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