

Psychotherapists and Counsellors Professional Liaison Group (PLG)
3 and 4 March 2009

PLG workplan

Executive summary and recommendations

Introduction

A copy of the PLG's workplan is attached, incorporating a revised plan of activities.

Decision

This paper is to note.

Background information

None

Resource implications

None

Financial implications

None

Appendices

None

Date of paper

23 February 2009

Psychotherapists and Counsellors Professional Liaison Group (PLG) Workplan

1. PLG sponsor

The Council

2. PLG Mission Statement / Terms of reference

To investigate and make recommendations to the Council on the future regulation of counselling and psychotherapy. The group should discuss and recommend the following:

- Structure of the Register
- Protected title(s)
- Voluntary register transfer and Grandparenting arrangements
- Standards of Proficiency
- Standards of Education and Training

The group should also collect information about potential registrant numbers, voluntary registers and existing education and training programmes.

At the chair's discretion, the group may wish to consider and make recommendations about other matters which are relevant to the statutory regulation of psychotherapists and counsellors, but which do not fall under these headings.

The group's recommendations will inform the Council's recommendations to the Secretary of State for Health.

3. Meetings

The timetable allows for five meetings.

4. Membership

The membership of the PLG has been determined.

5. Timetable

The following is a timetable for the PLG's work.

The plan assumes five meetings and that the Council will consider the outcomes of the group's work, identify any next steps and finalise its recommendations to the Secretary of State at its meeting in July 2009.

Meetings will be 10.30am to 3.30pm unless otherwise agreed with the Chair.

This is an indicative timetable. Any subsequent minor alterations to the timetable will be agreed with the chair.

4 December 2008

- 1st meeting

28 and 29 January 2009

- 2nd meeting

3 and 4 March 2009

- 3rd meeting

29 April 2009

- 4th meeting 2009

26 and 27 May 2009

- 5th meeting

Appendix 1: Indicative plan of activities

This plan of activities is subject to change in light of the group's discussion.

First meeting

- Department of Health presentation on the statutory regulation process
- HPC presentation – introducing the PLG's work
- Overview of responses to the call for ideas
- Preliminary discussion of key issues

Second meeting (2 day meeting)

- Structure of the Register and protected titles.

Third meeting (2 day meeting)

- Voluntary register transfers.
- Grandparenting.
- Education and Training.
- Standards of proficiency.

Fourth meeting

- Standards of proficiency.
- Protecting the title 'counsellor'

Fifth meeting (2 day meeting)

- Standards of proficiency.
- Education and training.