



Council
8 February 2024
Chief Executive and Registrar's Report

Classification	Public
Purpose	For noting
Issue	A review of activities and performance since the last Council meeting not reported elsewhere on the agenda.
Recommendations	To note the content of the report.
Financial and resourcing implications	These are set out in the paper.
Equality and diversity implications	The paper sets out what we have done since the previous Council meeting on matters related to equality, diversity and inclusion.
Communications implications	None.
Annexes	A. Business Plan Monitoring Report 2023-24 B. Finance Report (to follow)
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Key messages from this paper:

- The report sets out the activities undertaken by the team since the previous Council meeting not reported elsewhere on the agenda. Headlines include:
 - We continue to engage with the PSA on the 2023-24 Performance Review.
 - The AAPA Order 2024, which will bring Anaesthesia Associates and Physician Associates under the regulation of the General Medical Council (GMC), was laid before Parliament and the Scottish Parliament in December 2023.
 - We held a productive meeting with the osteopathic insurance providers, NCOR and the Institute of Osteopathy in December 2023.
 - Pilot of the Registrants and stakeholder perceptions survey has launched.

Introduction

1. This report gives an account of activities of note that have been undertaken by the Chief Executive and Registrar and colleagues since the previous Council meeting, which are not reported elsewhere on the agenda.

Professional Standards Authority for Health and Social Care (PSA)

PSA Performance Review

2. We continue to engage with the PSA around the Performance Review process for 2023-24, in particular the targeted audit activity, which is focused on the quality of early stage decision-making within Fitness to Practise.
3. We will report to a future Council meeting on any audit findings and on the outcome of the PSA's assessment of our performance against the Standards of Good Regulation.

Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC)

Legislative reform

4. The AAPA Order 2024, which will bring Anaesthesia Associates and Physician Associates under the regulation of the General Medical Council (GMC), was laid before Parliament and the Scottish Parliament in December 2023. This is draft legislation and has not yet been made a UK Statutory Instrument. Under current plans, Anaesthesia Associates and Physician Associates will begin to be regulated by the GMC in late 2024.
5. The AAPA Order provides the template for changes to the legislation of the other healthcare regulators with the Nursing and Midwifery Council and Health and Care Professions Council next in line.

Insurers Meeting

6. In December 2023 we facilitated a round table meeting between the National Council of Osteopathic Research (NCOR), osteopathic insurance providers and the Institute of Osteopathy. The meeting was also attended by patient representatives.
7. It was a highly productive meeting with a highlight being an agreement between NCOR and the insurance providers to continue to work closely together on the collection of data and to work to improve the data collected to inform and further enrich the NCOR Concerns and Complaints Report.
8. All parties agreed the meeting had been useful and committed to continuing to meet at least once a year.

Registrants and stakeholder perceptions survey

9. Since the last Council meeting, we have launched the pilot stage of the online survey for registrants, educators and students as part of our Registrants and Stakeholders Perceptions research. The survey will gather data on the views of GOsC and our role, and how we perform that role.
10. The survey will be launched fully in mid-February, and will be sent directly to all osteopaths on the Register (except for those included in the pilot). The survey is expected to remain open until mid-April, depending on response rates. The survey questionnaire is informed by feedback from stakeholders including NCOR, the iO and the OA.
11. DJS Research, the independent research company delivering this research on behalf of GOsC, will also carry out qualitative work to support the quantitative findings. The findings of the research are expected by summer 2024.

External meetings – bringing insight into our business

12. Since the previous meeting we have participated in several external events with stakeholders and partner organisations which ensure that we are able to bring insight to our work. These meetings, which have not been referenced elsewhere in the report, include:
 - Chief Executives of the Regulatory Bodies forum
 - Osteopathic Development Group
 - Inter-regulatory forums
 - University College of Osteopathy Graduation ceremony
 - Director, National Council for Osteopathic Research
 - Institute of Osteopathy meetings
 - Michael Evans, IT Consultant

- Various events on the use of artificial intelligence in health and education and impact on regulation.
- Professional Standards Authority (PSA) and Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman (PHSO) attendance at a joint seminar on tackling barriers to complaints.
- Focus groups and interviews with students, educators and others on the transition into practice.
- Contract management meeting with Mott MacDonald.
- Round Table Meeting with Osteopathic Insurers, patients and educators.
- GOsC / Council of Osteopathic Educational Institutions meeting.
- Osteopathic Development Group and sub groups working on data.
- Ongoing engagement with patients including contributions to consultations.

Business Plan monitoring

13. The Business Plan monitoring report for 2023-24 is attached at Annex A.

Financial report

14. At the November 2023 meeting, Council asked the Executive to take steps to address a forecast loss that was being predicted in 2023-24. Steps have been taken and expenditure, before spending from designated funds, will be contained within income, meaning no deficit in the financial year.

15. The latest Financial Report will follow in due course.

Recommendations: To note the content of the report.