



**Council**  
**16 November 2022**  
**Registration report**

<b>Classification</b>	Public
<b>Purpose</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. To note the registration statistics for the six-months to 30 September 2022.</li><li>2. To agree to publish the registration modelling report from Middlesex University.</li></ol>
<b>Issue</b>	The paper provides an update on registration activity covering the six-month period from 1 April 2022 to 30 September 2022.
<b>Recommendation</b>	To note the content of the report.
<b>Financial and resourcing implications</b>	Council will be aware that the primary source of income for the GOsC is from registration fees, and therefore any movement in the Register has an impact on our annual income.
<b>Equality and diversity implications</b>	The paper provides a range of data about our registrants which relates to equality and diversity, for example, age profile and gender balance.
<b>Communications implications</b>	None
<b>Annex</b>	A. Tracking the Osteopathic Profession 2009-2021: Key registration trends and predictive modelling report (Private)
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### Key messages from the paper:

- At the end of September 2022 there were 5,465 osteopaths on the Register.
- The number of non-practising registrants stood at 140 at the end of September 2022, which was down on a peak of 330 during the height of the pandemic. The figure is currently below our pre-pandemic average.
- Ten return to practise assessments were completed in the reporting period. Nine registration assessments, connected to internationally qualified applicants were completed.
- The final report on registration modelling has been completed, which we commissioned Middlesex University to undertake for us. This is attached at Annex A.

### Background

1. The registration report to Council provides detailed information about the statistics and activities which have been undertaken within the Registration team and covers the six months from 1 April 2022 to 30 September 2022.

### Registration data

#### *Number of registrants and gender split*

2. At the end of September 2022, the Register contained 5,465 osteopaths of which 51.67% of registrants are female (2,824) and 48.33% are male (2,641).
3. Ten years ago (March 2012) the Register contained 4,584 osteopaths, with the female to male registrant ratio being 49:51. Over this period the Register has grown by just under 900 osteopaths and there are now a greater proportion of female registrants compared to male registrants.
4. The age breakdown of the Register at the end of September 2022 was:

Age	Total registrants
Under or equal to 30	775
31-40	1,175
41-50	1,398
51-60	1,455
61-70	568
71-80	88
81+	6

5. 12% of the register are aged 61+. While this does not represent an immediate risk to Council, it is something which we need to factor into the longer term

financial planning for the GOsC, as a reasonable assumption is that a fair proportion of registrants in this group may leave the Register in the next 5-10 years.

*Entrants to the Register*

Total number of entrants to the Register	189
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*of which*

First time applications	174
Restorations to the Register	15

*of which*

Number of registrants living in the UK	177
Number of registrants living in the EU	6
Number of registrants living outside of the EU	6

*Removals from the Register*

Total number of removals (excluding resignations, retirements and death)	26
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*of which, those removed for*

Non-compliance with CPD	2
Non-payment of fee	11
Unacceptable professional conduct	-
Under PII Rules	13
Fraudulent application to the Register	-

6. In the year 2021-22, there were 36 removals from the Register (58 in 2020-21). Since the reporting of statistics to Council began, 378 registrants have been removed from the Register. The data below sub-analyses the removal from the Register data into different categories including age and gender.

*Removals from the Register (age)*

7. Of those registrants removed from the Register, 73% (275 registrants) were below the age of 50, of which 63% (164 registrants) were below the age of 40.
8. The age range per reason for removal is set out in the table below.

<b>Age range</b>	<b>Number of registrants</b>	<b>Removed for fee non-payment</b>	<b>Removed for CPD non-compliance</b>	<b>Removed under FtP proceedings</b>	<b>Removed under PII Rules or fraudulent application</b>
20-29	61 (16%)	39 (23%)	19 (14%)	1 (4%)	2 (4%)
30-39	111 (29%)	53 (32%)	46 (33%)	2 (8%)	10 (22%)
40-49	103 (27%)	42 (25%)	39 (28%)	9 (38%)	13 (28%)
50-59	64 (17%)	23 (14%)	27 (19%)	6 (25%)	8 (17%)
60-69	27 (7%)	7 (4%)	6 (4%)	4 (17%)	10 (22%)
70+	12 (3%)	4 (2%)	3 (2%)	2 (8%)	3 (7%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>46</b>

*Removals from the Register (gender)*

9. The total number of registrants removed from the Register since reporting of statistics to Council began in October 2011, indicates 56:44 split between male to female registrants removed from the Register.

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Number of registrants</b>	<b>Removed for fee non-payment</b>	<b>Removed for CPD non-compliance</b>	<b>Removed under FtP proceedings</b>	<b>Removed under PII Rules or fraudulent application</b>
Male	212 (56%)	91	73	23	25
Female	166 (44%)	77	67	1	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>46</b>

*Reasons for resignations*

Total number of resignations	121
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*of which, the reasons cited were*

Moving overseas	23
Ill health/deceased	12
Career change	18
No longer practising	10
Cannot afford fee/meet renewal requirements/Covid 19	8
Taking a sabbatical	2
Family/personal reasons	8
Full-time study	1
Retired	0
Does not like GOsC/agree with policy	2
No reason provided	37

10. The number of resignation is up on the same period in the previous year (85 in 2021) but consistent with the year before that which reflects the nature of registrations that happen monthly rather than at a single point in time.

*Non-practising registrants*

Total number of registrants who are listed as non-practising	140
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11. Based on the statistics reported to Council since October 2011 up to the beginning of the pandemic, at any one-time GOsC has on average 154 registrants who are out of clinical contact with patients. The main reason for registrants to be listed as 'non-practising' is because of maternity leave.
12. During the pandemic we saw the number of registrants recorded as non-practising peak at 330 during the summer of 2020. This started to reduce as lockdown restrictions eased, and for the period from late summer of 2020 to spring 2021, we had around 220-230 osteopaths registered as non-practising.

13. The current number of non-practising registrants (140) is the lowest number we have recorded since March 2020 and is indeed lower than our traditional, pre-covid, average.

*Return to practice activity*

14. We offer a return to practice process to all applicants who have been away from UK practice for two years or more to support their transition back to practice. This process involves a self-assessment activity, which may then be followed by a meeting with two trained Return to Practice Reviewers.

Total number of applicants who went through the Return to Practice self-assessment process	10
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*International Registration Assessment activity*

15. A total of nine registration assessments were completed in the reporting period.

Number of Non-UK Review of Qualifications	7
Number of Further Evidence of Practice forms	2
Number of Assessments of Clinical Performance	1

16. In the year 2021-22, we conducted 31 return to practice and international registration assessments (27 in 2020-21).

*Registration modelling*

17. The GOsC commissioned Middlesex University to undertake some registration modelling for us. This data allows us to predict what the future of the Register will look like in five years' time based on current data that the GOsC holds and student intake. The final report is detailed in Annex A.

18. Headline findings from this report include:

- A positive trend in student enrolment onto osteopathy courses and both progression and graduation rates are stable.
- A steady increase in joiners on to the GOsC Register each year, although, this pattern exhibits a high variation each academic year.
- The number of joiners on the GOsC register is higher than the number of leavers in each academic year. There will be two academic years in which the numbers of joiners and leavers will be close, 2021-22 and 2026-27 but these are not equal. Therefore, 2026-27 potentially indicates a point in time the GOsC need to be concerned that drop off might begin, because if the

number of leavers is greater than the joiners, the total sample size will start decreasing.

- A stable pattern in the age of osteopaths leaving the register i.e., the average age (52) and the minimum (30) and maximum age (86) remain stable each academic year.
- Results from the predictive modelling exhibit the expected sign between the probability of leaving the register and each explanatory variable. For instance, an increase in age increases the probability of an osteopath leaving the register.
- Results suggest that in the worst-case scenario, the expected number of registrants leaving the register is 143, out of which 82 would be female and 60 male, with a median age of 61 years old.
- The registrants who are more likely to leave the register have been on the register between 6 and 15 years (More or equal to 6 years and less than 15).
- Brexit is the only external factor likely to have a significant negative impact.
- The intention going forward is for Dr Stacey Clift of the GOsC and Jose Tomas Arias Moya and Dr Leandro Sepulveda Ramirez of Middlesex University to work towards journal publication of this work, given its uniqueness in terms of the methodology adopted (relatively new technique) and the unusual context in which it has been applied (osteopathy).

### **Recommendation:**

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