



### **An introduction from Matthew Redford, Chief Executive and Registrar**

I'm delighted to share that in its latest annual performance review of the GOsC, the Professional Standards Authority for Health and Social Care (PSA), has concluded that we have continued to meet all Standards of Good Regulation for the tenth year running.

We are the only health and care regulator who has met every standard in each year since the start of the performance review process. We take great pride in this achievement and we are delighted that we are able to demonstrate to the public, to the profession and to our stakeholders, that osteopathy possesses a credible and high-

performing regulator. This is very much a team effort, with collaboration at the centre of our regulatory approach. I would like to thank everyone involved in the work of the GOsC for the part they have played in this success. You can [read the PSA's full report on our website](#).

I am also pleased to confirm the appointment of Mott MacDonald Limited as our new quality assurance services provider for osteopathic education. Mott MacDonald Limited has an impressive track record in professional regulation, and we were pleased to appoint them following a rigorous tender process which started in November last year. We're looking forward to working in partnership with Mott and drawing from their valuable experience. I would also like to thank the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education, who have previously undertaken the contract for the GOsC, for their work and professionalism.

Many of you will have seen, or are due to see, lockdown restrictions eased, depending where in the UK you are based. We have reflected the easing of the lockdown in updates to the [stringent infection control measures](#) and the [statement on osteopathic practice](#), both of which were issued as a result of the pandemic. As many of you begin to restart practice, do keep these documents under review.

Despite the gradual easing of lockdown measures, many public events that were due to take place unfortunately had to be cancelled as a result of the pandemic. This year's Pride in London festival on 27 June was one of them, and this year the GOsC was due to attend for the first time in our history, alongside colleagues from other healthcare regulators.

At the start of this message, I spoke of our organisation's pride in its performance. But equal to that, is the pride we take in our workplace as one in which everyone is able to be their true selves without fear of discrimination. Our diversity is one of our many strengths as a team and it has always greatly enhanced the work that we do. We will always seek to continue to make our workplace a welcoming place for all.



Whilst Pride in London was cancelled, a number of virtual events took place online across that weekend, including [NHS Virtual Pride](#) and [Global Pride](#). I will leave you with this short message which we recently posted on social media in support.



Matthew Redford discussing NHS Virtual Pride and Global Pride 2020.

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## Updated guidance and information

As the lockdown restrictions imposed as a result of COVID-19 continue to be eased, we have published updates to the [stringent infection control measures](#) we issued as a result of the pandemic, as well as our [updated statement on osteopathic practice](#). You can find these, along with other guidance and advice, on the [COVID-19 section of our website](#).

**CORONAVIRUS:  
LATEST  
GUIDANCE**

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## Patient safety in a shared practice

Where osteopaths practise together, or with other healthcare practitioners, tensions may arise as to the implementation of our infection control guidance and other necessary measures at this time. These may lead to some difficult conversations with colleagues. Our case study looks at some steps you can take to minimise patient risk. [Read more](#)



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## Using professional judgement

The GOsC is reminding osteopaths of the importance of following infection control guidance and using professional judgement when considering treatment options with patients. Fiona Browne, GOsC's Director of Education, Standards and Development, has provided an overview of our Infection control guidance and the use of professional judgement. [Read more](#)



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## Requesting registration certificates and ID cards

Currently, with our staff working remotely, we are unable to provide a paper copy of your annual certificate and ID card. If you are seeking a copy for verification purposes, we encourage you to provide your GOsC Registration number instead of the paper copy along with a link to the Register: [osteopathy.org.uk/register-search](https://osteopathy.org.uk/register-search). The Register is updated daily and your inclusion on the Register is proof of your status as an osteopath.



## GOsC appoints new quality assurance services provider

The GOsC is pleased to confirm the appointment of Mott MacDonald Limited as quality assurance services provider for osteopathic education. This appointment follows a tender process which commenced in November 2019 and represents a change in provider for the GOsC from the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA). [Read more](#)



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## GOsC extends deferral scheme for registration fee direct debit payments

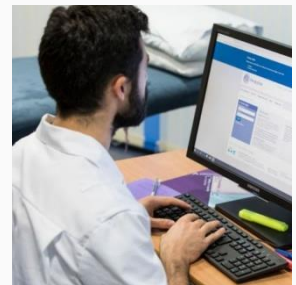
After having carefully monitored our financial position and cash flow, the GOsC has been able to extend the direct debit deferral scheme to also include those who are due to renew their registration in July. This means that for those who pay by direct debit and are due to renew in July, the payment-free months will now fall at the start, rather than at the end of the registration year. [Read more](#)



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## Reminder: Renewing your registration

If your renewal is already due or will be due in August, you can go online and [renew your registration](#) at any time. If your registration status is non-practising, you will still need to renew your registration. If you are now returning to practise, remember to inform your insurance provider and contact us at [registration@osteopathy.org.uk](mailto:registration@osteopathy.org.uk) to update your status. [Log on to the o zone for more information on renewing](#)



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## Don't forget your insurance

You need Professional Indemnity Insurance (PII) whether you're seeing patients or not. This legislation protects patients and ensures you're indemnified against liabilities. If you change your status to 'non-practising' (ie you're not seeing or speaking to patients), you need to have 'run-off' cover. You'll need to discuss this with your insurance provider. Also, you will need to make sure that you update all your insurers about your intention to return to practise and how you will practice, if you make this decision. [Find out more](#)



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## Get help with your CPD objective activity

If you would like some help with the objective activity requirement of the CPD scheme, why not sign up to one of our summer two-part webinar series and you will get the chance to complete this activity in just 14 days. We are offering case-based discussion and peer observation and both will be run as a two-part webinar series where you will be expected to attend both parts for whichever topic you choose. Case-based discussion part 1 will be held on 14 July and part 2 on 28 July, at 1-2 pm. Peer observation as a role-playing activity part 1 will be on 30 July and part 2 on 13 August, at 1-2 pm. Please note by signing up you are committing to taking part in both parts of the webinars in the two-part series, so if you choose to do the case-based discussion series for example, you will need to attend on 14 July and 28 July. To book a place or to find out more, please contact Stacey Clift [sclift@osteopathy.org.uk](mailto:sclift@osteopathy.org.uk) (please note places are allocated on a first-come first-served basis).



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## Learn with others and stay connected

We are keen to help you keep in touch with others in this time of social isolation. Engagement, support and community are key features of the CPD scheme and there are lots of ways to continue to do CPD, with others and for free. [Find out more](#)



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## Reporting your CPD

Unlike the previous CPD scheme, there is no longer a need to submit an annual CPD summary form with all the details of your CPD activities; you now just need to declare the number of hours you have done on your Renewal of Registration form (available on the [o zone](#)) and say which features of the scheme you have completed that year. Remember, this CPD should be recorded and reflected upon. [Read more](#)

You might also want to have a look at the [March/April issue of The Osteopath](#) which has a detailed article about keeping CPD records.



## GOsC's Council to meet on 9 July

The GOsC's Council will next meet on Thursday 9 July, with the scheduled meeting taking place online for the second time this year. You can find the [agenda and papers on our website](#).



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## Looking after your mental health

Taking the time to take care of your own mental health and wellbeing is always important, and even more so during these challenging circumstances. We have collated some free resources that you might find helpful. [Read more](#)



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## Updating your websites

We've been getting a large number of requests for Registration Marks from osteopaths who have been using this time to update their websites. If you want to promote your GOsC registration online, individual osteopaths can apply for an 'I'm Registered' Mark, which includes your unique GOsC registration number, and if you're the principal osteopath of a group practice you can apply for a 'We're Registered' Mark. [Find out more via the o zone](#)



## Any queries or feedback?

If you have any COVID-19 related queries, you may find the answer on the [COVID-19 section of our website](#). If you can't find the answer you are looking for, or if you have suggestions or feedback for us, please email: [covid19@osteopathy.org.uk](mailto:covid19@osteopathy.org.uk). For other queries or feedback not related to COVID-19, you can contact us via [info@osteopathy.org.uk](mailto:info@osteopathy.org.uk)