

## **Policy on Notification of Fitness to Practise Investigations and Outcomes**

### **Purpose**

1. This document sets out the GOsC's policy in relation to the information that it will seek from registrants who are the subject of complaints, and the information that it will provide to third parties about the investigation and outcome of such complaints.

### **Information requested from registrants**

2. At the time a registrant is informed of a complaint/allegation made against them, the Regulation Department should routinely ask the registrant to provide details about:
  - a. their employment and any other contractual or other arrangements to provide osteopathic and other services (whether paid or unpaid); and
  - b. whether or not they are registered with another health care regulatory body.

### **Information that will be notified to third parties**

3. Where the Investigation Committee considers that the registrant has a case to answer and refers the matter to the Professional Conduct Committee, the Regulation Department should routinely inform a registrant's employers and any persons with whom he may have a contractual or other arrangement to provide services (where known), and any other health care regulator that he or she may be registered with (where known), of:
  - a. the fact that a registrant has been referred to the Professional Conduct Committee;
  - b. the allegation that has been referred to the Professional Conduct Committee;
4. The Regulation Department should routinely inform a registrant's employers and any persons with whom he may have a contractual or other arrangement to provide services (where known), and any other health care regulator that he or she may be registered with (where known), of any interim suspension orders that may be imposed by the Investigating or Professional Conduct Committees.

5. At the conclusion of the proceedings before the Professional Conduct Committee, the Regulation Department should routinely inform a registrant's employers and any persons with whom he may have a contractual or other arrangement to provide services (where known), and any other health care regulator that he or she may be registered with (where known), of:
  - a. any adverse findings made by the Professional Conduct Committee;
  - b. any sanctions (including interim suspension orders) imposed by the Professional Conduct Committee; or
  - c. any decision that an allegation was not well founded.
6. From January 2016, where an osteopath's practice has been restricted or removed, even temporarily, in circumstances where a registrant represents a risk to patients or the profession, an alert will be sent by the GOsC to all other relevant Competent Authorities in other EU Member States via the secure Internal Market Information system. This information will include the registrant's identity and the scope of the restriction or prohibition. The osteopath will be informed of the alert in writing and their subsequent right to appeal.

### **Information about Health Cases**

7. The GOsC should not routinely notify employers and other third parties about complaints relating to a registrant's health.
8. The Regulation Department should inform a registrant's employers and any persons with whom he may have a contractual or other arrangement to provide services (where known), and any other health care regulator that he or she may be registered with (where known), where:
  - a) an interim suspension order has been imposed on a registrant by the Health Committee; or
  - b) the Health Committee has imposed a sanction on a registrant.

### **Notification in relation to section 32 of the Osteopaths Act 1993**

9. The Regulation Department should notify last known employers and other relevant parties when it receives an allegation that a person who is not on the register is using a restricted title, contrary to section 32 of the Osteopath's Act 1993.

### **Approved by Council on 17 October 2013**

**Coming into force: with immediate effect**

**Date of next review: October 2016**

<b>Document title</b>	<b>Document Author</b>	<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Detail of Amendments</b>
GOSC Policy on Notification of Fitness to Practise Investigations and Outcomes	David Gomez	1.1 as approved by Council	17/10/13	N/A
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