

ACC Joins the SCoPEd Group

Dear Counselling Members and Affiliates

The following communication (copied below) is being sent out today by ACC and other accredited registers to update members about their involvement in an expansion of the SCoPEd project. We are cautiously optimistic that involvement in the project will benefit our current and future members, especially those seeking employment.

We imagine that some of you will have questions about what the expansion of the SCoPEd project will mean, and why ACC wants to be part of it. We are happy to answer questions, and generally to find out what your views are about the current framework. We are planning two open forums for ACC members via Zoom on Wednesday 25th and Thursday 26th November between 6-7.30 pm. They are repeat events, to allow as many people as possible to attend. Please put the dates in your diary and if you have specific questions you would like us to address, can you email the office at office@acc-uk.org. We will be sending Zoom links nearer the time to all counselling members, so there is no need to pre-register.

Joint Communication

We would like to announce that a number of meetings around the widening of the Scope of Practice and Education (SCoPEd) project group have taken place over recent months.

As you may be aware, the SCoPEd project began back in 2016 as a collaboration between three Accredited Registers: British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP), British Psychoanalytic Council (BPC) and United Kingdom Council for Psychotherapy (UKCP). More recently the Association of Christian Counsellors (ACC), Association of Child Psychotherapists (ACP), Human Givens Institute (HGI) and National Counselling Society (NCS) have indicated their interest in working together to produce an agreed shared professional standards framework.

The additional Accredited Registers have signaled their agreement to join the SCoPEd project group on the basis of equal participation and shared ownership of the framework and its outputs. This will include involvement in the SCoPEd technical group and the Expert Reference Group (ERG). New governance arrangements will see the current SCoPEd Steering Group replaced by a newly created SCoPEd Oversight Committee (SOC). The SOC will include the CEO of each membership body and its role will be to lead on and agree strategic decisions in relation to the project. This will include ensuring that the project represents the work of counsellors and psychotherapists working with adults within the partnership organisations. A representative of the PSA will also attend these meetings as an observer.

All parties are engaging in the project to ensure that it represent the whole profession.

SCoPEd project group

Association of Christian Counsellors, Association of Child Psychotherapists, British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy, British Psychoanalytic Council, Human Givens Institute, National Counselling Society and United Kingdom Council for Psychotherapy.