



ACC REGISTER ADVISORY PANEL (RAP) MEETING

Zoom Meeting

Friday 17th June 2022

2.00pm – 5.00pm

Minutes of Meeting

Attendees

Independent

Catherine Clarke, Chair RAP (CC)

Richard Needle (RN)

Heather Churchill (HC)

Fiona Stevenson (FS)

Doreen Rowland (DR)

ACC

Kathy Spooner, ACC CEO (KS)

Sue Monckton-Rickett, ACC Chair (SMR)

Dawn Sherry, ACC Registrar (DS)

Gillian Stuart, ACC Head of Membership Services (GS)

Apologies

None

1. Welcome

CC welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Prayer

Prayer was offered.

3. Conflicts of interest

There were no conflicts of interest.

4. Notes of last meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the last meeting (25/03/22) were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

5. Organisational Update: KS / SMR

Current Priorities

IT Systems:

The IT contract has now been agreed and the development of the new IT system and website started. A temporary staff shortage at Image+ has impacted the timescale a little, however Image+ are confident this will not delay the project as a whole. This is a significant commitment from ACC in terms of time and finance and it has been prioritised above other work as a result.

KS shared with RAP some of the wireframe templates for the new website. CC and RAP made a few minor suggestions and RN said it looked more professional.

ACC Rebrand:

KS shared the new ACC logo and name with RAP. ACC will now stand for the Association of Christians in Counselling and Linked Professions. RAP discussed the name change and thought it was a positive step.

AGM:

The AGM is on July 16th via zoom. There are 5 potential new board members and we have received the nominations. Voting papers need to be in by July 12th. We have a diverse range of candidates for the board.

ACC National Conference:

The ACC conference booking was launched at the end of April and is due to take place in October at the Hayes Conference Centre in Derbyshire.

Brighter Lives Funding:

We have been awarded a grant from Brighter Lives (part of the Benefact Trust). especially for Mental Health impacts from the covid pandemic. We were gifted £30K which is 15% of the total project budget we requested. We are going to use this as per the funding request, to revise and develop further Pastoral Care Training.

NHS Specialist Service:

NHS England have indicated that they wish to continue to support the provision of a counselling service by ACC for staff. The criteria have widened to include anyone with a patient facing role within the NHS, not only those who have been impacted by the Covid Pandemic. The provision had reduced from 8 to 6 sessions of counselling per person. The new scheme started on 1st June 2022.

6. ACC Counselling Update:

PSA Annual Check:

The PSA annual check has been completed and the review is due to be back to ACC by next week.

Newly Qualified Membership + Students:

ACC want to encourage newly qualified counsellors to join ACC and provide support to them. We are planning to launch a half price membership deal for counsellors who have qualified in the previous six months.

In addition, we hope to offer connecting and mentoring forums once a quarter, looking at different issues such as transitioning from a student to a counsellor, record keeping etc. The intention is to

encourage more experienced counsellors to attend the forums to offer their experiences and share information.

SCoPEd:

ACC will be encouraging training affiliates to appraise their own curriculums to ensure that their training will map to the framework.

The SCoPEd partnership has engaged a company to undertake the impact assessment.

HC asked how we will map members onto Column C. KS said this is still being considered but that we are looking at training and experience of our members and how we can find equivalence in evidencing some of the competences required.

ACC Counselling Practitioner Accreditation level (this enabled members who had Level 3 advanced training to access accreditation at a lower level) as it does not map on to SCoPEd column B. We need to notify members of this when the announcement to adopt can be made.

7. Complaints Report:

SMR shared the standard complaints report with RAP.

14. Recruitment to RAP:

Many members of the RAP panel will be standing down in 2023. There is a need to recruit members if the current structure is to continue, but the experience of doing by for example advertising in Accord and in emails to members has had limited success. RN advocated for the need for new members as the risk is that the current panel may lose a critical edge if simply extended. KS also asked if there was a different structure which might be better suited to support the functions of independent scrutiny of the register.

Proposal to extend the term of current RAP members for maximum of three years until another solution to this problem is found. Board approval will be sought for the extension of the panel for another three years.

15. Risks to ACC:

The IT system is still an ongoing risk.

The risk associated with litigation is reduced following a decision not to pursue the litigation.

15. RAP Standing Items

No changes.

16. AOB

None

DONM :

Next meeting dates will be on Friday September 30th, by zoom.

December 2nd in person