

And here's the very latest from Michael Guthrie - I notice the use of the word 'iterative' which, according to wikipedia, means

Iteration means the act of repeating a process usually with the aim of approaching a desired goal or target or result. Each repetition of the process is also called an "iteration", and the results of one iteration are used as the starting point for the next iteration.

Which I find very interesting indeed.... perhaps he has admitted that they'll be going round in circles until they get what they want!!! Worrying though, if the start point for the next circle is where recommendations have been made, as in they'll not revisit them, otherwise it'll not be iterative...?

Dear Mr Guthrie,

Indeed the White Paper does say "...psychotherapists and counsellors will be regulated by the Health Professions Council" as you state, however the White Paper goes on to clearly state that this will be **"*following*" (my emphasis) the Council's rigorous process of assessing their regulatory needs and ensuring that its system is capable of accommodating them"** (page 85).

To date, I can find no evidence that these caveats have been fulfilled or even attended to. Rather, it appears that the level of opposition and the clear questioning, including over 1,000 responses to the Consultation, shows well-founded doubts as to the HPC's ability to accommodate our profession.

I cannot see how the HPC can accommodate our profession when your generic Standards Of Practice (SOP) bear no relation to the work I do with my clients. As examples, requiring me to adhere to infection control as aimed at medical models of working, or to be able to interpret and order medical diagnostic tests, both demonstrate an inability to accommodate me as a counsellor due to this required standard not being of any relevance or use in my practice. If this is an HPC-required generic system standard, then the HPC cannot accommodate me as a counsellor or indeed any other counsellor, and therefore the HPC has not ensured **"that its system is capable of accommodating them"**.

In understanding that Marc Seale has already written to the Dept of Health to give the go-ahead for Section 60. I then further understand, from your own comments at the Confer Conference in January, that this will mean that no amendments will be considered. After Section 60, it either stands or it falls, and nothing has fallen in 35 years...

This is of grave concern. After Section 60, which has been given the green light, there can be no amendments, but your SOP's bear no relation to my profession.....

I look forward to your response to these issues.

Sincerely, Mrs Rosalyn Young. for the NCP.