

Registration renewal reminder

Profession	Renewal cut-off / lapsing date
Orthoptists	31 August 2009
Paramedics	31 August 2009
Clinical scientists	30 September 2009
Prosthetists / orthotists	30 September 2009
Speech and language therapists	30 September 2009
Occupational therapists	31 October 2009
Practitioner psychologists	31 October 2009

Renewal forms must be signed and returned to the HPC **as soon as possible** but by 5pm on the above dates at the very latest. You must also include payment (unless a direct debit instruction is in place).

To ensure your name stays on the HPC Register:

- send your renewal form (and payment) to us well before the deadline;
- call the HPC Registration Department now if you have changed your home address; and
- sign up to this newsletter (which includes renewal reminders) by emailing newsletter@hpc-uk.org

You can help your colleagues too by reminding them when to renew. For free renewal posters to display in your workplace, email publications@hpc-uk.org

The average processing time for renewal applications is approximately ten working days, although this time may vary depending on the volume of forms we receive. Once we have processed your renewal form and payment, our online Register is immediately updated to show your new registration dates. The Register is in real-time and is the best way for you or your employer to verify your registration status. The Register can be viewed at www.hpc-uk.org, where employers can also check the status of up to 100 people at a time, using the 'multiple registrant search'.

The Registration Department can be contacted Monday to Friday, 8am – 6pm, on our lo-call number 0845 3004 472 (if calling from within the UK) or on +44 (0)20 7840 9802.

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Welcome to HPC In Focus 24. And a special welcome to practitioner psychologists who may be reading this newsletter for the first time! See page 2 for more on practitioner psychologists joining the HPC Register.

In this issue we are asking subscribers to contribute to two current consultations. Following the recommendations of a Professional Liaison Group, we are consulting on the statutory regulation of psychotherapists and counsellors. We are also consulting on the statutory regulation of dance movement therapists. See page 3 to find out how to respond to these consultations.

This autumn we will be attending a number of professional conferences and exhibitions, as well as running Listening Events and Employer Events, across the UK. Be sure to check the listings in this newsletter and see if we are coming to a town near you.

The next edition of HPC In Focus will land in your inbox on Friday 2 October 2009.

Jonathan Jones, Editor

This newsletter and previous issues can be downloaded from the website at www.hpc-uk.org/publications/newsletter

To have it sent straight to your inbox, please email newsletter@hpc-uk.org

Continuing professional development (CPD)

We have selected a percentage of those professions currently renewing to submit a CPD profile. Those selected for audit must complete a profile that demonstrates the activities they have undertaken during the past two years to meet our CPD standards. For more information about this process, including sample profiles and the CPD standards, please visit our website at www.hpc-uk.org/registrants/cpd. You can also access an online CPD audio-visual presentation from this page which talks you through the audit process.

Selected registrants need to return their completed CPD profile by 31 August 2009 (orthoptists and paramedics), 30 September 2009 (clinical scientists, prosthetists / orthotists and speech and language therapists) and 31 October 2009 (occupational therapists). The first audits for practitioner psychologists will not take place until March 2013.

The registration team can be contacted Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm on our lo-call number 0845 3004 472 (if calling from within the UK) or on +44 (0)20 7840 9802.

The HPC opens Register to practitioner psychologists

On 1 July 2009 the HPC opened its Register to practitioner psychologists. This means that practitioner psychologists are now independently and statutorily regulated for the first time. We now regulate practitioner psychologists who use the following titles: clinical psychologist, counselling psychologist, educational psychologist, forensic psychologist, health psychologist, occupational psychologist, practitioner psychologist, registered psychologist, and sport and exercise psychologist.

Marc Seale, the HPC's Chief Executive said: "The HPC first recommended psychologists for statutory regulation in June 2003 to the Secretary of State for Health following an application from the British Psychological Society (BPS). It's my understanding that psychologists themselves have wanted statutory regulation since the 1960s so this is great news for them and the general public.

"Statutory regulation of practitioner psychologists means that public protection will be enhanced. Every day, people in the UK consult health professionals and it is important that they feel better protected knowing their practitioners will have met nationally agreed standards. If health professionals drop below

these standards the HPC can impose a range of sanctions including stopping them from treating or seeing patients. The HPC can also prosecute those who pretend to be registered".

Renewal reminder

All registrants must renew their registration every two years in order to remain on the Register. However, following a consultation, the first renewal cycle for practitioner psychologists will be 19 months rather than two years. This is to ensure that subsequent renewal takes place in a quieter period, allowing us to provide a more efficient service.

The first registration cycle will run from 1 November 2009 to 31 May 2011. Registrants will be asked to pay a pro-rata fee of £120 for this period. All registrants must also complete, sign and return a registration renewal form. Renewal forms will be sent at the beginning of August and must be completed and returned to us no later than **31 October 2009**.

For more information on the regulation of practitioner psychologists, see www.hpc-uk.org/aboutregistration/aspirantgroups/psychologists

Current consultations

We are currently running two consultations.

The statutory regulation of psychotherapists and counsellors

In 2007, the government recommended that psychotherapists and counsellors should be regulated by the HPC. We set up a working group called a Professional Liaison Group (PLG) to look at issues related to the statutory regulation of these professions. You can find more information about the PLG at

www.hpc-uk.org/aboutus/professionalliaisongroups/psychotherapistscounsellors

We are consulting on the recommendations made by the PLG around the structure of the Register, the protected titles, the transfer of voluntary registers, the standards of proficiency and the threshold level of qualification for entry to the Register.

The statutory regulation of dance movement therapists

We are consulting on the statutory regulation of dance movement therapists. Dance movement therapists made an application to the HPC for regulation in 2004. We are proposing that dance movement therapists should be regulated alongside art therapists, dramatherapists, and music therapists within the 'arts therapists' part of the Register.

We are consulting on the structure of the Register, the protected titles, the transfer of voluntary registers, the standards of proficiency and the threshold level of qualification for entry to the Register.

We would welcome your response to these consultations. Both consultations run until Friday 16 October and recommendations will then be published in December.

Download copies of the relevant documents from our website at www.hpc-uk.org/aboutus/consultations. Alternatively, you can contact us via email at policy@hpc-uk.org if you would like to receive these materials as hard copies or in an alternative format.

www.healthregulation.org



In June we relaunched the Health Regulation Worldwide website (www.healthregulation.org). The site offers an online searchable database of health regulators and professional bodies for health professionals across the world.

The site has been completely redesigned with a fresh new look, improved navigation and increased functionality. It is now possible to browse the database by clicking on the online map as well as browsing by continent or by using the search facility.

Whilst the website is hosted and maintained by the Health Professions Council, we rely on individuals giving us information about organisations to keep the database up-to-date. To add to or update the details of an organisation, visit www.healthregulation.org and follow the links.

New series of Employer Events announced



Employer Events aim to provide practical information for human resources and personnel directors and managers within the NHS, as well as service managers and others that employ or manage HPC registrants in local authorities and private practice. Attendees at previous Employer Events have commented that events were “well presented, focused and relevant” and an “excellent opportunity to engage with the HPC regarding current issues.” Others said: “friendly, well-organised, professionally presented” and “really useful to feedback to colleagues especially regarding the CPD audit” with “some really useful tips and resources.”

Based on feedback we have made a number of improvements to the format and content of these events. Presentations followed by a question and answer session will include information on registration and renewal, international and temporary registrants, revalidation and developments at the HPC. Practical workshops on fitness to practise and continuing professional development – key areas for employers, managers and registrants – will be held with HPC experts from the Fitness to Practice, Registration and Policy and Standards Departments.

Communicating with employers is a particularly important area of communications work for the HPC. This was reflected in a recent performance review by the Council for Healthcare Regulatory Excellence (CHRE) which stated: “The HPC demonstrates excellence or good practice in communication with employers about the role of HPC and its work.” (from Performance review of health professional regulatory bodies, 2008/09, CHRE).

We hope you will be able to join us at one of the following events.

London – Tuesday 24 November 2009

Park Inn London, Russell Square
92 Southampton Row
London WC1B 4BH

Cardiff – Thursday 26 November 2009

Holiday Inn Cardiff City
Castle Street, Cardiff,
South Glamorgan CF10 1XD

Belfast – Tuesday 1 December 2009

Holiday Inn Belfast
22 Ormeau Avenue
Belfast BT2 8HS

Glasgow – Wednesday 2 December 2009

Crowne Plaza Glasgow
Congress Road
Glasgow G3 8QT

Registration for all events will open at 10.10am for a 10.30am start. Events will finish at approximately 4pm. Registration is free but places are limited: email employers@hpc-uk.org or visit www.hpc-uk.org/aboutus/employers for more information and to register online.

Meeting allied health professionals in Scotland



The HPC recently exhibited at the Maximising AHP Potential Conference in Polmont, Scotland. This one-day conference attracted around 300 allied health professionals (AHPs) and other interested delegates. It featured speeches from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing, Nicola Sturgeon, the Chief Health Professions Officer in the Scottish Government, Jacqui Lunday, and Graeme Smith, AHP Lead and Producer of Mindz Matter, a positive mental health organisation.

Over 150 delegates visited the HPC's exhibition stand, with our publications on continuing professional development, returning to practice and confidentiality all proving popular. HPC representatives were on hand to answer queries on a range of topics, from practitioner psychologists joining the HPC Register to the HPC audit process for continuing professional development.

Influenza pandemic advice

As swine flu spreads across the UK and more people catch the virus, the UK departments of health or equivalents have moved from containment and outbreak management policies to the treatment phase. A framework of ethical principles, which must inform the provision of health services in a pandemic, is available on the Department of Health website (www.dh.gov.uk).

The Health Professions Council has produced a position statement which provides advice for registrants. See www.hpc-uk.org/mediaandevents/statements/swineflu to read the statement.

The HPC is show partner for Independent Living Scotland



Independent Living Scotland is Scotland's leading disability, rehabilitation and homecare show. The exhibition provides an opportunity to test and compare all the latest independent living and mobility aids from over 120 exhibitors. This year the event takes place on 9 and 10 September at the SECC in Glasgow and the HPC is pleased to be an official show partner. If you are attending this year's event, be sure to visit us at stand A25.

Mark Potter, HPC CPD Communications Manager, will be giving free presentations on both days of the exhibition in the CPD Professional Seminar Theatre, which has been programmed by HPC-registered occupational therapist Kate Sheehan this year. Mark commented "We are now auditing the CPD of a random sample of professionals when they renew their registration with us. The CPD Professional Seminar Theatre at Independent Living Scotland will be a great opportunity to explain our CPD standards and the audit process. I look forward to meeting as many of our registrants as possible at the event". Mark's presentations take place at 11.30am on 9 September and 10.30am on 10 September in the CPD Professional Seminar Theatre.

Full seminar details are available at www.independentlivingscotland.co.uk where visitors can also register for free entry to the show.

The HPC upgrades ISO certification

The HPC has recently upgraded its International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) certification and Gary Fenton, BSI Director of Operations, officially presented the new certificate to our Chair, Anna van der Gaag, at the first meeting of the new Council on Monday 6 July.

Head of Business Process Improvement, Roy Dunn, commented: "the HPC upgraded to the latest version of the standard at the earliest opportunity to indicate our commitment to maintaining and improving everything we do."

Chief Executive and Registrar of the HPC, Marc Seale said: "The responsibility for using, maintaining and improving our processes rests with the entire organisation. As such, the new ISO standard marks an important step that the HPC is taking to continually develop and improve our commitment to the protection of the public."

The photograph below shows Gary Fenton, BSI Director of Operations, presenting the new certificate to HPC Chair Anna van der Gaag.



Listening Events

The HPC hosts Listening Events around the UK to ensure regular contact with registrants and to keep in touch with their views. They also present an opportunity to network with local colleagues and exchange ideas.

Listening Events begin with a short presentation followed by discussion groups and a question and answer session where attendees can put their views and queries to a panel including HPC Council members. These popular events are well-attended so be sure to book early to avoid disappointment.

Discussion topics at previous events have included continuing professional development (CPD), fitness to practice, and extending regulation to new groups. Many registrants record their attendance at HPC Listening Events in their CPD record.

For further information, including how to reserve your place, maps and directions to venues please visit our website at www.hpc-uk.org

Darlington – Wednesday 23 September 2009

1.45pm – 4pm and 5.45pm – 8pm

(two identical events)

Blackwell Grange Hotel, Grange Road

Darlington DL3 8QH

Scarborough – Thursday 24 September 2009

1.45pm – 4pm and 5.30pm – 7.45pm

(two identical events)

Royal Hotel, St Nicholas Street

Scarborough YO11 2HE

Milton Keynes – Thursday 15 October 2009

1.45pm – 4pm and 5.45pm – 8pm

(two identical events)

Stadium MK, Stadium Way West

Milton Keynes MK1 1ST

Eastbourne – Wednesday 18 November 2009

1.45pm – 4pm and 5.45pm – 8pm

(two identical events)

Devonshire Park, College Road

Eastbourne BN21 4JJ

Dates for your diary

HPC Council and committee meetings are held in public. More information, including minutes and agendas can be found on www.hpc-uk.org/aboutus/council

Council and committee meetings: August 2009 – October 2009

Tuesday 25 August 2009	Education and Training Committee
Thursday 10 September 2009	Council meeting
Tuesday 15 September 2009	Finance and Resources Committee
Tuesday 22 September 2009	Education and Training Committee (am and pm)
Tuesday 29 September 2009	Audit Committee
Wednesday 7 October 2009	Council meeting
Thursday 22 October 2009	Fitness to Practise Committee
Thursday 29 October 2009	Education and Training Committee

Come and meet the HPC

Exhibitions are an excellent way for us to get out and meet you. We will be exhibiting at the following events, where representatives from the HPC will be on hand to answer queries, and provide HPC literature for those who would like more information. Why not come along and meet us?

British Association of Sport and Exercise Sciences (BASES) Annual Conference

1 September 2009

Leeds Metropolitan University, Leeds

This annual conference brings together academic, education and practitioner experts in this field from the UK and overseas, to share knowledge and exchange ideas. We will be speaking at this event and representatives from the HPC will be on hand to answer questions.

www.bases.org.uk

Division of Health Psychology Annual Conference 2009

9–11 September 2009

Aston University, Birmingham

Please visit our stand on Thursday 10 September where we will be happy to answer queries and provide information. We will also be giving a presentation which will cover the role of the HPC and what regulation means (12.20pm in the Sumpner Lecture Theatre).

www.bps.org.uk

Independent Living Scotland

9–10 September 2009

Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre, Glasgow

This two-day event is Scotland's premier homecare, disability and rehabilitation exhibition. Come and see us on stand A25. We will also be presenting at 11.30am on 9 September and 10.30am on 10 September in the CPD Professional Seminar Theatre.

www.independentlivingscotland.co.uk

Division of Clinical Psychology Faculty for Children and Young People Annual Conference 2009

10–11 September 2009

Royal Holloway, University of London

This conference will bring together around 400 delegates from the UK and overseas working or studying in the field of clinical psychology and specialising in working with children and young people. Please visit our stand to find out more about the HPC and regulation.

www.bps.org.uk

British Association of Dramatherapists

11–13 September 2009

Wadham College, Oxford

We will be available to answer questions and provide information at this annual conference from 11am to 1pm on Friday 11 September.

www.badth.org.uk

British Dietetic Association Conference

15–17 September 2009

University of Manchester

Come along at 11.45am on 16 September to hear our presentation (11.45 – 12.30pm) on continuing professional development and your registration. We will also be exhibiting at this event; come and meet us on stand number 2.

www.bda.uk.com

Biomedical Science Congress

28–30 September 2009

ICC, Birmingham

Come and meet the HPC on stand R2. You can also hear a presentation on regulating healthcare science professions on Monday 28 September.

www.ibmscongress.com

Fitness to practise hearings

Our Fitness to Practise Department is responsible for handling complaints, known as ‘allegations’, about the fitness to practise of professionals we register. When we say that a health professional is ‘fit to practise’ we mean that he or she has the health and character, as well as the necessary skills and knowledge, to do his or her job safely and effectively.

Our main responsibility is to protect the public, maintaining public confidence in the professions and professionals we regulate. We will consider every complaint we receive about a health professional on a case-by-case basis and take action in light of the individual circumstances.

The table below and over the page provides basic details of hearings since the June edition of HPC In Focus. For further information on these, and all other fitness to practise hearings, see www.hpc-uk.org/complaints/hearings

Date of hearing	Name	Registration number	Profession	Details	Outcome
5 May 2009	Barbara Henshaw	PH26307	Physiotherapist	Conviction for driving with excess breath alcohol	Three-year conditions of practice
5 May 2009	Michael Lalloz	CS01284	Clinical scientist	Poor performance	Struck off
7 May 2009	Michelle Flay	PA19645	Paramedic	Self-administered Entonox	One-year caution
11 May 2009	Daniel Jackson	RA45232	Radiographer	Failure to meet standards set in employer capability plan	Suspended
13 May 2009	Edward Sage	CH07350	Chiropodist	Gave false information and failed to provide information to employer	Two-year conditions of practice
21 May 2009	Alan Foster	BS25100	Biomedical scientist	Fell asleep at work having consumed alcohol prior to reporting for duty	Five-year caution
21 May 2009	Kim Holland	PA17134	Paramedic	Provided false information on job applications and at interview	Struck off
28 May 2009	Steven George	ODP23091	Operating department practitioner	Conviction for battery	Suspension
29 May 2009	Jonathan Knight	PA09606	Paramedic	Conviction for driving with alcohol concentration above the prescribed limit	Struck off
29 May 2009	Gary Byron	OT22164	Occupational therapist	Failure to keep records despite instruction	Struck off
1 June 2009	Derek Gale	AS01092	Arts therapist	Provided inappropriate treatment, breached client confidentiality and failed to provide adequate care and support	Struck off
1–3 June 2009	Charles Davies	CS00549	Clinical scientist	Conflicts of interest and unauthorised use of Trust resources	Struck off

Fitness to practise hearings (continued)

Date of hearing	Name	Registration number	Profession	Details	Outcome
2 June 2009	Mark McFarlane	ODP11137	Operating department practitioner	Taking drugs from employer for personal use and failing to report colleague undertaking the same actions	Struck off
4 June 2009	Michael Griffiths	PA09227	Paramedic	Multiple convictions for theft, failure to report convictions to employer and falsely signing employment forms	Two-year caution
18 June 2009	Azuma Kalu	BS45766	Biomedical scientist	Failure to perform laboratory test properly and failure to operate equipment properly	Two-year caution
18 June 2009	Graham Spires	PA02537	Paramedic	Made inappropriate sexual remarks and sent inappropriate text of a sexual nature to a woman when attending a call to her house	Two-year caution
22 June 2009	Hannah M A McIlhinney	OT49346	Occupational therapist	Poor clinical practice	Suspension

All hearings begin at 10am and are open to the press and public, unless otherwise stated. See the HPC's website for details of forthcoming hearings.

To attend a hearing, please contact Ebony Gayle on +44 (0)20 7840 9784 or email ebony.gayle@hpc-uk.org

To receive the 'FTP alert' email which includes details of recent and forthcoming fitness to practise hearings, please send your email address to ftp@hpc-uk.org. To be added to our media alert email list, please send your email address to press@hpc-uk.org

Correction: Michael Charlesworth's case outcome appeared as 'Struck off' in the last edition of HPC In Focus (Issue 23, June 2009). This information was incorrect; Mr Charlesworth's case actually resulted in a 'Caution order' being made for three years. We apologise for any confusion that this may have caused.

Appointments

CPD assessors (radiographers)

We are currently recruiting continuing professional development (CPD) assessors who review CPD profiles for the purpose of continuing registration.

Registration assessors (prosthetists / orthotists)

We are currently recruiting registration assessors who look at applications for registration and based on the evidence in the application make a decision on whether the applicant meets the standards.

For both of these roles you will need to have sound written and verbal communication skills and the ability to analyse complex information to form reasoned decisions. Training will be provided. Appointments will last for two years from commencement, and will then be subject to reappointment.

A fee will be paid as will travel and accommodation expenses in accordance with the HPC Partner Expense policy.

The HPC does not accept CVs. For a recruitment pack and further details about the role, please go to www.hpc-uk.org/aboutus/partners or email partners@hpc-uk.org

If you have a specific query regarding either of these positions, call 020 7840 9776 or 020 7840 9771.

Closing date: 4 September 2009

The HPC is committed to equality of opportunity and actively guards against unfair discrimination on any grounds (including sexual orientation, religion or beliefs, race, sex, age or disability).

Contact us

What do you think of this newsletter? Is there anything you would like to see in future issues? We would like to hear your views, so please email newsletter@hpc-uk.org

To subscribe or unsubscribe please email newsletter@hpc-uk.org

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Alternative formats

To request a copy of this newsletter in an alternative format, or in Welsh, please email newsletter@hpc-uk.org or call +44 (0)20 7840 9806.