

RECORD OF ADVISORY BOARD (“BOARD”) DISCUSSION

30th April 2024 at 19:00 (MS Teams)

1. Confirmation of previous minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting on 30th November 2023 were agreed.

2. Accreditation by the Professional Standards Authority

Further to the email circulated to the group in January it was confirmed that the Register was formally accredited by the PSA. The PSA issued a press release announcing the go-live status of the Accredited Practitioner Register for Equine Practitioners.

The accreditation was issued with a 7 conditions. Board members were advised that these had been completed and returned to the PSA in February. The Register is awaiting the outcome of this review.

3. Update from the Professional Conduct Review Committee

There have been no complaints handled since the previous meeting. PCRC activity has been principally been structural, with its focus being on the actions arising from the conditions of accreditation.

4. Additional roles to covered by the Register

The board discussed the Register’s submission of a Notification of Change to the PSA. These are to cover the roles of Equine Assisted/Facilitated Psychotherapist/Therapist and Equine Assisted/Facilitated Occupational Therapist. The PSA have acknowledged there is a definite public interest in recognising these roles and as such the request will be progressed.

5. Register membership

The board were advised during Q1 there have been a steady receipt of renewals of previous membership. There have been 5 lapses in membership, and 5 new memberships confirmed.

Networking and Promotional activity

Board members attended PSA Workshop, London, National Equine Show, Birmingham - Stand at NEC, Neurodiversity in Business, London - ND in the Workplace Conference.

Board members participated in discussions on supporting neurodiverse individuals in the workplace. There was a discussion about the opportunities for incorporating neurodiversity principles into equine therapy programs and what meant in terms of facilitator competencies.

Board members are now scheduled to speak about the Register at the Equine Assisted and Facilitated Practitioners Register in June at the Unicorn Centre in Stow-on-the-Wold.

Abstracts have been submitted to speak at two forthcoming international conferences, HETI in Budapest and IAHAIO in Romania.

The Register is also booked for the Dublin Horse Show in August.

6. Any other business

There was no other business.

7. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 8th August at 7pm.