

ACCREDITED PRACTITIONER REGISTER (“REGISTER”) ADVISORY BOARD (“BOARD”)

Summary of a meeting of the Advisory Board held online via MS Teams

12th December 2024 at 19:00.

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees and confirmed that automatic transcription was agreeable to all present. This was confirmed by all.

1. Update on activity with the Professional Standards Authority accreditation team

It was advised that the new standard 9 introduced during 2024 covering for equality, diversity, and inclusion. The assessment has been reviewed and signed-off by the PSA as meeting the standard.

It was advised that there was no eta on the submitted Notification of Change covering new titles for accreditation, being:

- Equine Facilitated/Assisted Psychotherapist/Therapist
- Equine Facilitated/Assisted Occupational Therapist
- Animal Assisted Psychotherapist/Therapist
- Horticultural Therapist

There had been conversations with the Horticultural Therapy market in context of membership, engagement and participation.

The annual review had been successfully completed – which includes the remaining initial conditions of accreditation.

2. Update on Professional Conduct Review Committee

It was reported that the Professional Conduct Review Committee (PCRC) has been expanded to eight members and is now working independently of the Advisory Board.

3. Update on Education and Training Committee

It was reported that an Education and Training Committee had now been successfully created and the first meeting held.

That committee signed off the application for recognition [REDACTED] internal training programme, meaning that their trained facilitators can now apply for register membership.

4. Update on application and registration

There was confirmation that Register activity was currently around 1 working day per week.

It was confirmed that the decision to set a single renewal date of March 1st was agreed.

5. Update from Accredited Register Collaborative (ARC)

The meeting was updates on the activities of the Accredited Register Collaborative and that is was a bi-annual gathering of representatives from all the accredited registers, but not the regulators.

There was a discussion around the PSA's new Head of Accreditation joining to discuss the upcoming three-year plan and the intention to align regulations across accredited registers with those of regulated bodies.

6. Promotional activity since last meeting and proposed activity

Promotional activities through the autumn were outlined. This included talk at IAHAIO conference in Romania, some networking in the US by GG when he was there and online attendance of IAHAIO AGM, the World Horse Welfare conference and the British Horse Council.

Future events currently scheduled in 2025, the Horses and Humans Research Foundation conference in February, the National Equine Forum (March), Equine Cultures in Transition (June) and the American Horse/British Horse Councils (June).

There will also be attendance at the National Horse show in March at the NEC and the Dublin Horse show in August.

7. Risk matrix and Conflicts of Interest register (to be circulated for review)

It was advised that the risk matrix and conflicts of interest register would be circulated for review following the meeting. Comments and observations would be invited from all recipients.

8. Further recruitment to the Advisory Board, and other committees

There was discussion about further recruitment to the governance committees.

9. Any other business

There was no "other business"

10. Meeting dates for 2025

Dates for meetings in 2025, including the week of March 10th, June 9th, September 15th, and December 8th would be looked at.