Executive summary of the Report of the reaccreditation visit to the Independent Psychoanalytic Child and Adolescent Psychotherapy Association/British Psychotherapy Foundation for the Clinical

Training in Child and Adolescent Psychotherapy/ Professional Doctorate in Child and Adolescent Psychotherapy

Date of the visit: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Names and roles of panel members, including job titles where appropriate

Kathryn Hinchliff: Lay member of ACP and Panel Convenor

Teresa Cooke: Lay member on ACP Training Council

Francesca Calvocoressi: Child and Adolescent Psychotherapist

Jeremy Gunson: Child and Adolescent Psychotherapist

Eva Crasnow: Child and Adolescent Psychotherapist (IPCAPA graduate)

**Training Council link members:** 

Philip McGill: Vice Chair of ACP Training Council

## Introduction

The Independent Psychoanalytic Child and Adolescent Psychotherapy Association (IPCAPA) is one of four professional and training associations making up the British Psychotherapy Foundation (*bpf*) which was established in 2013 through the merger of 3 founding organisations: The British Association of Psychotherapists (BAP), The London Centre for Psychotherapy and The Lincoln Clinic & Centre for Psychotherapy.

IPCAPA Child and Adolescent Psychotherapy training has been in place within the BAP for almost 35 years and has trained approximately 100 Child and Adolescent Psychotherapists most of whom have gone on to work in the NHS.

The purpose of the accreditation panel visit is to review whether the clinical training

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continues to meet the standards of the Association of Child Psychotherapy (ACP) in order re-accredit the programme for a further period of five years.

IPCAPA continues to work with Birkbeck College (University of London) which has been their doctoral programme partner since 2008 however this programme has been closed to new entrants since 2013 and the partnership will end when the trainees complete their research component of the programme (after qualifying from the clinical training).

In 2014, a new partnership was formed between IPCAPA, the Anna Freud Centre for Children and Families and University College London for a 4-year full time clinical doctorate programme as part of UCL's Research Department of Clinical, Educational and Health Psychology. The IPCAPA collaboration with the AFC is an unusual one between two distinct institutions but one which appears to be mutually beneficial and it operates under a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) enabling the delivery of a fully integrated UCL accredited four- year clinical doctoral programme.

The challenges of managing partnerships with 2 academic institutions have been onerous for this small teaching team and it is a great testament to them that they have been able to keep communications open and to have maintained and met all the required standards and regulations for 2 academic providers.

IPCAPA and its predecessor the BAP has had NHS funded places for the past 10 years of between 5-8 trainees per year half of whom are based in London and others in Kent, Surrey, Sussex and the East of England. IPCAPA is fully compliant with HEE's contract and performance management process. On average, HEE NCEL commissions 7 places per year from IPCAPA and there are currently 31 fully NHS funded trainees in total.

The data and information used by the Panel to inform its decision making was based upon that provided to the Accreditation Panel, including IPCAPA internal documents, external reports, placement visits, meetings with staff and stakeholders and observations of teaching.

## **Conclusions**

The panel is confident that the clinical training for Child and Adolescent Psychotherapists being delivered by IPCAPA is meeting the standards of the ACP.

Although IPCAPA is a small training school the panel are impressed by its high standards of teaching, the pastoral care provided to the trainees as well as the commitment of clinical and academic course directors and the business manager who have successfully led, developed and implemented a new 4-year Clinical Doctorate programme in collaboration with the Anna Freud Centre for Children and Families and the University College London, now in its third year. This has been done in parallel coping with pressures from a significant organisational restructuring process.

The bpf/IPCAPA collaboration with the AFC is an unusual one between two distinct institutions but one which appears to be mutually beneficial and it operates under a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) enabling the delivery of a fully integrated UCL accredited 4- year clinical doctoral programme. Through panel discussions and written feedback from service supervisors it is evident that the new programme is so far meeting the needs of stakeholder Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services.

A key feature of the new 4- year doctoral programme is the research component embedded throughout the whole programme. The research and audit projects undertaken by trainees appear to be highly valued by their service supervisors who commented positively on both their quality and relevance to the workplace.

Since 2013 when the *bpf* was formed the Chief Executive Officer has devolved managerial and budgetary responsibility for IPCAPA's training to the clinical course director and business manager. The ACP re-accreditation panel learned that the CEO would be leaving the organisation in the summer of 2017 which may cause some anxiety and a period of organisational instability until a successor is confirmed in post. The CEO confirmed that IPCAPA has the trust and support of the Chairman and Trustees of the *bpf*.

## All ACP standards are met

## **Commendations:**

The panel would like to commend IPCAPA at the *bpf* on the following:

- The progress that the organisation has made post- merger in 2013 to form a new organisation including support from the Chair, Board of Trustees and Chief Executive.
- The high calibre of the IPCAPA management team and the accessibility and commitment of the clinical course director.
- The successful development and implementation of a new 4-year
  Doctorate programme in collaboration with the Anna Freud Centre for
  children and Families and University College London, that has been
  developed in consultation with service colleagues and other stakeholders
  and which incorporates flexibility and responsiveness to changing service
  needs and workload pressures.
- The quality of trainees especially the Year 4 trainees who impressed the panel with their commitment, enthusiasm and willingness to learn, often overcoming significant challenges.
- The range and quality of clinical placement provision and support from the highly motivated and committed service supervisors and progress advisors.
- The high calibre, passion and commitment of the experienced and innovative teaching team.

# **Conditions:**

None

## **Recommendations:**

The panel recommends the following:

- 1. That IPCAPA reports on the impact of organisational change, stemming from the recruitment of a new CEO at the *bpf* on the stability, smooth running and financial management of the clinical training provision in its next Annual Report to the ACP.
- 2. That IPCAPA adopts a more formal approach to developing its future teachers and tutors and puts a succession plan in place by September 2018.
- 3. That short- term measures are put in place to improve the learning environment for trainees especially access to library resources, computers and internet access at *bpf* premises, and find ways to reduce the overcrowding on Tuesday afternoons/evenings and improving the quality and comfort of the learning environment.
- 4. In the longer-term consideration is given to ensuring that the Knowledge and Information Technology Management Systems of respective partners *bpf*, AFC and UCL are fully compatible.
- 5. That IPCAPA seeks additional expertise to support the team in developing and implementing a comprehensive equality and diversity strategy and should consider working in collaboration with similar training providers.
- 6. That IPCAPA ensures that those service supervisors who are temporarily without a trainee are given the same opportunity to give feedback to staff at IPCAPA as those who currently have trainees.
- 7. That IPCAPA supported by the ACP should continue to work collaboratively with NHS organisations to emphasise the impact of providing fewer or even no training placements on the future NHS workforce and the profession.
- 8. That IPCAPA make minor improvements to the complaints policy in relation to locating information for the various parties and making links to them in the handbooks.