



ACP Board of Directors Meeting

To be held on Friday, 24th September 2021 from 15:00 to 17:30 via Zoom

Summary Minutes and Decisions

1) Present and Apologies

Present: Kate Robertson (Chair)
Olatayo Afuape
Marie Bradley
Francesca Calvocoressi
Sarah Gilmour
Kath Hinchliff
Claire Hopkins (joined from 15:30 until end)
Jason Kaushal (joined until 17:20)
Janine Sternberg
Brian Waring
Mick Wood

In attendance: Leslie Ironside (IPG Chair from 17:00), Jessica Jarmon, Business Manager (minutes); Nick Waggett, CEO

Apologies: Anjum Iqbal

2) Minutes: approve full and summary minutes of July meeting

a) *Minutes*

The minutes of the meeting held on Friday, 23rd July 2021 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

b) *Summary Minutes*

The summary minutes of the meeting held on Friday, 23rd July 2021 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting with the following correction:

Under item 4.a.PSA re-accreditation review should read:

- In the PSA revised Standards, the inclusion of a new Standard 1b relates to evidence that the work undertaken by registrants is of public benefit, and that benefits outweigh potential risks.

3) Workings of Scientific Development Committee

MB presented a detailed overview of the work of the SDC outlining the four platforms to the work:

- Research, to commission systemic reviews and to collate and disseminate 'soft' evidence
- Supported Clinical Networks

- Events – thriving programme in place
- The Journal and the Bulletin

The board thanked MB and acknowledged how much work the SDC is doing.

4) Governance

a) *Supervision policy*

FC presented the updated version of the supervision policy.

It was agreed to amend the current document to state 'one hour minimum' to be clear this is the minimum amount needed for supervision throughout the policy.

Agreed to table in a review of the supervision policy in a years-time and to amend if necessary.

b) *GDPR/HR policies update*

NW reported that both projects are gathering pace and going well.

JJ and NW said they expected both projects to be completed by the November board meeting.

c) *Summary of complaints*

FC presented a summary of complaints compiled by Jo Goldsmith, Chair of the Ethical Practice Group. The Board noted the small number of complaints and that it was good to see that the practice review was being used. It was noted that the practice review has made a significant and positive difference to members going through the complaints process.

d) *Risk Register*

NW presented an update on the risk register. The Board were asked to note an update to 'Risks to the viability of the profession'.

Concerns about risks to the viability of the training schools are increasing due to demands from Health Education England (HEE) to increase capacity and respond to NHS policy initiatives in a short timescale.

5) Regulation

a) *SCoPEd (Scope of Practice and Education)*

NW reported on the current situation in relation to the SCoPEd project. NW presented a paper outlining the reasons the ACP should withdraw from being active partners and become observers. The main reason for this suggestion is that the clarity and differentiation between different levels of training offered has not been sufficiently highlighted. Given this and that work with 18-25 age group is a relatively small part of members work, it was suggested that the ACP become observers rather than active partners in the project. This was agreed.

It was also agreed that this decision would not be communicated immediately but would wait for the publication of the SCoPEd (Scope of Practice and Education) document. NW agreed to have a draft statement ready if needed.

6) Finance

a) *Minutes of Finance and Remuneration Committee and financial overview*

Minutes of the Finance and Remuneration Committee were circulated. CH informed the Board that the ACP remains in a good financial position. The 2020 accounts have been signed off and sent to Companies House. It was noted that the accountants had clarified that the ACP does not need a statutory audit.

It was acknowledged that the financial position and management of the accounts is something the ACP should feel enormously proud of.

7) Diversity work

a) Update on ACP Diversity training/consultation for Board and staff team

NW confirmed that Gillian Neish will be offering diversity training to the Board, Deputies and ACP staff on Friday, 3rd December 2021.

b) Coalition against conversion therapy/memorandum of understanding

NW reported that since the last Board meeting it has become clear that in joining the coalition against conversion therapy there is an expectation that the ACP will sign the memorandum of understanding against conversion therapy. There are concerns about doing this as in its current form there is a lack of explicit recognition of the needs of children.

It was noted that within the ToR there is an option to join the coalition as an advisor organisation. This would enable the ACP to put forward suggestions to change the MoU to take account of the development of children and the particular issues working with children without signing the MoU in its current form. It was suggested that this would put the ACP in a better position to represent children.

The Board were asked to vote on clarification of the previous Board decision: to join the MoU as an advisor organisation with the view to getting the MoU changed to address the needs of children and psychotherapy with children at which point the ACP could consider signing the MoU. All present agreed with one abstention

It was also agreed that members needed to be consulted about changes ACP suggest to the MoU.

c) ACP statement on diversity

KR explained that the statement sent to Board members was in the Diversity Plan which had been agreed at November 2020 Board but the statement not been properly discussed and agreed. KR asked the Board members to send comments about the statement. KR and NW will rewrite the statement and circulate it to committees for comments before coming back to the November Board.

8) ACP statement on climate change

KR presented a summary document from the ACP Climate Change Working group asking the Board to declare a climate change emergency. KR informed the Board that behind the statement is a detailed paper which the climate change working group are in the process of completing.

The Board were unanimously in their agreement in adopting this policy and it was noted it was legitimate interest for the ACP as it is concerned with children's mental health.

KR explained that if the Board agreed to the statement that the climate change working group would need to become a sub-group of the SDC.

9) Independent Practice

LI outlined the task of the Independent Practice Group which sits under the professional standards committee. The purpose of the group is to ensure that standards are maintained in independent practice and that issues impacting on members in independent practice are addressed within the ACP. There had been a document circulated prior to the meeting outlining some issues in relation to Independent Practice. There was a broad ranging discussion about how best to support members in private practice; the sense of increasing numbers of members leaving CAMHS (Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services) and working privately and how to address this when the training is paid for by the NHS.

KR thanked LI for taking the time to attend the Board and raising these issues.

10) AOB

None recorded.

**11) Dates of next meetings: 2021: 26/11
2022: 28/1; 25/3; 27/5; 22/7; 22/9; 25/11**