

## Audit Committee 26 November 2015

### Risk Assurance mapping at HCPC

#### Executive summary and recommendations

#### Introduction

At the Audit Committee of 8 September 2015, the Executive were asked to provide examples of the risk assurance mapping for sample parts of the risk register.

The Risk register has been in place since 2003, and has undergone many improvements to ensure it is fit for purpose. The current format of HCPC's risk register has been in place since 2009.

In 2014 a section was added to the end of the risk register to illustrate overall risk assurance around HCPC for each of the major groups of risks. Three major categories of assurance are indicated.

- AREA C.** Management Control & Reporting  
 Team Leader, Department Managers, Heads of, analysis of performance and trends within departments; departmental Quality Assurance processes, internal Near Miss Reporting for events with the potential for reputation damage.
- AREA B.** Functional oversight / Governance  
 Oversight of functions by line manager EMT members, Chief Executive & Registrar, and fellow EMT members. (includes monitoring of monthly reporting outputs).
- AREA A.** Independent review / Assurance / Regulatory oversight  
 Includes all external audit functions focused on HCPC, BSI (ISO9001 & ISO27001 audit process and schedule), Professional Standards Authority (PSA performance review), Contracted Internal Auditors (PKF, Mazars, Grant Thornton etc), External Auditors (National Audit Office, Baker Tilly)

Increasing Assurance →																
AREA C. Management Control & Reporting				AREA B. Functional oversight / Governance	AREA A. Independent review / Assurance / Regulatory oversight											
Systems Controls	Operational Risk Management	Inter-departmental Quality Assurance	Near Miss Reporting	EMT	Council	Audit Committee	Internal Auditors	External Auditors (NAO)	External Legal Advice	Quality Management System ISO9001	Information Security Management ISO27001	PSA	Penetration Testing	PCI-DSS	Parliamentary or government oversight	Assurance Status Flag: Good, Medium, Poor

The grid above has been applied to all sections of the risk register.

This broad approach to Risk Assurance was applied to all risks, by the risk owners. The assurance mapping makes the risk register more difficult to read whilst not adding additional assurance to the committee. This will become apparent when we examine the assurance mapping for the following key risk areas;

- Human Resources Risks
- Fitness to Practise Risks

- Strategic Risks

Organisations aim to provide “Reasonable Assurance” that their risk responses are appropriate. However, all audit activity is a burden on an organisations resources, and one must consider the impact and the potential benefit to the organisation and its stakeholders.

As the HCPC has a low risk appetite and catastrophic scenarios are highly unlikely to occur, excessive audit of assurance mechanisms are unlikely to be cost effective.

There is little to gain from an increased risk appetite at a regulator of health and care professionals, so the level of assurance in our environment is unlikely to change in the short to medium term.

### **Decision**

Committee is asked to discuss the report and associated examples of risk assurance and provide direction to the Executive as to whether this level of risk assurance mapping is fit for purpose, or if another approach is required.

### **Background information**

HCPC’s Risk Appetite statement

The HCPC is a UK statutory regulator of Health and Care professionals, with the objective of protecting the public.

HCPC has an **averse** appetite to risk in that we;

1. Identify all relevant risks
2. Mitigate those risks to an appropriate level
3. Invest mitigation resources in proportion to the level of risk

### **Resource implications**

The Executive will determine any resource implications following the decision from this paper.

### **Financial implications**

None

### **Appendices**

### **Date of paper**

16 November 2015

# **Risk Register & Risk Treatment Plan - Assurance demonstration**

**Marc Seale, Chief Executive & Registrar  
Report to Audit Committee, (Aug 2015)**



Latest version stored on Intranet in Quality Management System \ Quality \ Risk Management

AREA C. Management Control & Reporting				AREA B. Functional oversight / Governance	AREA A. Independent review / Assurance / Regulatory oversight											Assurance Status Flag; Good, Medium, Poor	Ref	Category	ISMS Risks	Ref #	Description	Risk owner (primary person responsible for assessing and managing the ongoing risk)	Impact before mitigations Jul 2015	Likelihood before mitigations Jul 2015	Risk Score = Impact x Likelihood	Mitigation I	Mitigation II	Mitigation III	RISK score after Mitigation Jul 2015	RISK score after Mitigation Jan 2015
					X	X	X		X						X	G	1	Strategic		1.1	HCPC fails to deliver SI Sec 6.2 & Health Bill Links to 7.1-7.4, 8.1-8.2, 10.4, 10.5, 11.4, 15.9	Council	5	1	5	Delivery of HCPC Strategy	Publication of Annual Report	Ensure Strategic Intent is up to date	Low	Low
					X				X							G		Strategic		1.2	Unexpected change in UK legislation	Chief Executive	5	2	10	Relationship with Government depts	Environmental scanning	-	Low	Low
					X	X	X		X							G		Strategic	I	1.3	Links to 2.2, Incompatible SI Sec 6.2 & Health Bill and EU legislation	Chief Executive	1	3	3	Monitoring of EU directives e.g. Professional Qualifications Directive	Membership of Alliance of UK Health Regulators on Europe (lobby group)	-	Low	Low
					X											G		Strategic		1.4	Failure to maintain a relationship with PSA	Chief Executive & Chair	5	1	5	HCPC Chair and Chief Executive relationship with PSA	Communications	-	Low	Low
				X	X											G		Strategic	I	1.5	Loss of reputation	Chief Executive & Chair	5	3	15	Quality of governance procedures	Quality of operational procedures	Dynamism and quality of Comms strategy	Medium	Medium
					X	X	X		X							G		Strategic		1.6	Failure to abide by current Equality & Diversity legislation	Chief Executive	4	2	8	Equality & Diversity scheme	Implementation of scheme for employees Implementation of scheme for partners	Equality & Diversity working group	Low	Low
				X												G		Strategic		1.7	Failure to maintain HCPC culture	Chief Executive	5	2	10	Behaviour of all employees	Induction of new employees	Internal communication	Low	Low





HPCPC Risk Assurance mapping

Key Business Risk areas Assurance Map	AREA C. Management Control & Reporting				AREA B. Functional oversight / Governance	AREA A. Independent review / Assurance / Regulatory oversight										
	Systems Controls	Operational Risk Management	Inter-departmental Quality Assurance	Near Miss Reporting	EMT	Council	Audit Committee	Internal Auditors	External Auditors (NAO)	External Legal Advice	Quality Management System ISO9001	Information Security Management ISO27001	PSA	Penetration Testing	PCI-DSS	Parliamentary oversight
Strategic risks						x	x	x		x						x
Communications		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x			
Continuing Professional Development	x	x	x	x	x		x			x						
Corporate Governance			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x			x
Information Security	x	x	x	x	x		x	x			x	x		x	x	
Education	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x		x			
Finance	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x
Fitness to Practise	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x		x			x
HR	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x				
Information Technology	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x		
Legal				x	x	x	x	x		x			x			x
Operations	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x		x			
Partner	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x			
Pensions				x	x	x	x	x		x						
Policy & Standards			x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x		x			x
Project Management	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x				
Quality Management	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x		x			
Registration	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x		x			