

Health Professions Council
Investigating Committee – 19 April 2007

Fitness to Practise Committees' Joint Meeting/s

Introduction

At the Fitness to Practise (ftp) Chairmen and Deputy-Chairmen meeting held on the 12 February 2007 various options for the proposal to hold a joint meeting of three ftp committees', Health, Investigating and Conduct and Competence were discussed. It was agreed that the ftp committees would review the different proposals detailed below.

The ftp committees are required by their constitutional rules to meet twice in a year whilst they currently held four meetings a year. By holding a joint meeting identical papers which were often re-presented by the Director of Fitness to Practise could be dealt with once and would make better use of HPC's funds and resources and also that of the Committee members' and Executive's time.

Decision

The Committee is asked to discuss the following proposals, assess their pros and cons, and recommend one of the following options for approval. The Health Committee has discussed these options at their meeting on the 12 April 2007. The Conduct and Competence Committee will be asked to do the same at their meeting on the 23 April 2007:

- to hold two ftp committee meetings a year (as per current cycle) followed by one joint meeting of the ftp committees.
- to hold two joint meetings of the ftp committees in place of their scheduled committee meeting cycles.
- to create one ftp committee overall (which would necessitate legislative changes). The Investigating and Conduct and Competence committees did need to be separated as their ftp functions were quite distinct.
- to hold two ftp committee meetings a year (as per current cycle) followed by two joint ftp committee meetings a year.

Background information

Please refer to the minutes of the Fitness to Practise Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen meeting 12 February 2007.

Resource implications

None

Financial implications

None

Appendices
None

Date of paper

29 March 2007

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