

## Profession Specific Boards (PSBs): Role, Terms of Reference and Membership Criteria

Profession Specific Boards (PSBs) are an important part of CNHC's structure and ways of working. The members of the Boards provide invaluable expert advice on issues such as the development of our policies and also provide members to be trained to sit on our Conduct and Competence panels.

There must be a PSB in place for each discipline that wants to join the CNHC Register. The establishment of the PSB is the responsibility of the discipline concerned and there are a number of ways to achieve this.

CNHC expects the selection of members to serve on PSBs to be transparent, fair and impartial. It expects that all relevant professional associations in the discipline in question will be offered the opportunity to take part, even if some choose not to do so.

PSB members should be willing to commit time and effort into this important part of CNHC's work. There should also be robust mechanisms in place for seeking the views of the wider profession on the issues under discussion, so that representative views are fed into debate.

At the current time it is unlikely that any disciplines that have not completed the Federation for Integrated Health (FIH) regulatory programme will be in a position to set up a PSB. This is an issue that will be addressed by CNHC's Professional Standards Committee during 2009.

### **Role of PSBs**

- Setting, maintaining and reviewing, in conjunction with the Board, the profession-specific education and training entry and profession-specific practice standards; profession-specific revalidation standards; CPD, grandparenting and APEL standards.
- Liaising with the Board and Committees, the profession-specific Professional Associations and profession-specific registrant practitioners and the Professional Advisory Panel (PAP).
- Providing ad hoc, profession-specific expertise and advice to the Board and Committees as required.
- Providing input and liaising with the Board and profession-specific Professional Associations and registrant practitioners concerning any recommended or proposed changes to standards.
- Preparing and submitting an annual report to the Board and reports following any PSB meetings.
- Liaising with the Board, Committees and Professional Associations in relation to the standards and process of accreditation and related audit of profession-specific training providers and providing advice to the Board and Committees.

## **B. Profession Specific Boards – Criteria for Practitioner Members**

Members must:

### *Knowledge, skills and attitudes*

- be (once register is established for discipline in question) a current registrant of the Complementary & Natural Healthcare Council (CNHC), in good standing and have been in current practice for a consecutive period of five years and able to demonstrate evidence of such
- be wholly or mainly a current practitioner in, or trainer/teacher of, one or more styles of complementary healthcare practice which are specifically relevant to the PSB to which the Registrant is seeking membership and which are recognised by the CNHC and the relevant PSB
- have a good working knowledge of the profession, including the various styles within the overall profession, including knowledge of standards of education and training, practice methods and standards of conduct, taking into account the wider perspective of any different styles of practice within the profession
- be able to communicate clearly and effectively in meetings and be willing and able to have regard to and consider, without bias, the views and opinions of all styles of practice within the profession
- be in current good standing as a practitioner and not be the subject of any allegations, investigations or proceedings by any professional or regulatory body or any other body responsible for regulating or representing a complementary healthcare practice

### *Knowledge of CNHC*

- have a good working knowledge of the role, responsibilities and processes of the PSB and the CNHC (although induction training will be provided)
- be able to contribute their up to date knowledge, expertise and skills in a way that aids the effective work and decision-making of the PSB
- have a commitment to, and be supportive of, the objectives of the PSB and the CNHC
- be fully independent of any interests, professional, personal or commercial, which are in conflict or could be in conflict with their responsibilities as a member of the PSB
- act as a representative of the CNHC and abide by its codes of conduct.

### *Additional criteria*

- be able to provide two references, one of which is related to a current demonstration of the knowledge and experiences defined herein
- be able to demonstrate any other such qualities, interests and experiences that are relevant to the Profession and/or work of the PSB.