

Horizon Scanning

1. Background

- 1.1 At the meeting of the Board held on 7 February 2017 it was agreed that horizon scanning should be a standing item for all future Board meetings.
- 1.2 Sections 2, 3 and 4 below include the range of issues confirmed as at 22 April 2024.

2. Generic workplace/employment issues

- Effectiveness of the Home Based Working policy
- Any changes in employment legislation

3. Wider political environment

- Change of government
- The current geopolitical crisis
- Cyber security risks
- Impact of cost of living increases

4. Healthcare Sector-specific issues

- Integrated Care Systems White Paper and the prospects for integration of complementary and mainstream healthcare
- Social prescribing
- Personal Health Budgets/Self Directed Support
- Standards for the delivery of online training and assessment
- February 2023 published outcome of 2022 government consultation on *'Healthcare regulation: deciding when statutory regulation is appropriate and how powers to introduce and remove professions from regulation might be used in the future'*
- 2023 draft legislation on GMC's statutory powers granting them more flexibility and a new fitness to practise model that allows more cases to be decided consensually, outside of a formal hearing. Intended to act as the blueprint for reforms to other statutory health regulators.
- Professional Standards Authority consultation on good practice guidance documents in support of regulatory reform.
- Scottish Government draft legislation to make conversion practices illegal.

5. Members' action

- 6.1 Members are asked to discuss and agree any additions or changes to the issues listed in sections 2, 3 and 4 above.

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