

Executive Summary and Recommendations

Introduction

Existing Situation:

- The size of the Council is linked to the number of professions regulated.
- The Council regulates 13 professions and has a 26 member Council, plus a President.
- The Council has recommended that five Aspirants Groups should be regulated.
- Potentially dozens of other Aspirant Groups will be regulated by the HPC within 5 years.
- A Council comprising over 30 members will hinder good corporate governance.

Other key points:

- Existing ratio of Registrant to Lay members will remain the same, i.e. R=L-1.
- Role of members of Council is not to represent a particular profession.
- Any changes to the Health Professions Order 2001 will require a section 60 Amendment.
- A number of HPC documents are attached for reference.

Options:

Four options have been identified. They are as follows:

(i) Momentum

Do not change the relationship between the number of professions regulated and the number of members of Council.

(ii) Groupings

Group professions and limit number of members of Council from each group to less than the number of professions in each group. Groups could be made up according to the number of registrants, or similarity of profession, or randomly.

(iii) Electoral College

Establish an Electoral College comprising a uniform number of members from each regulated profession. The College would then meet to elect members of the Council. The resulting Council would have fewer members than the number of professions regulated.

(iv) Voting

Adopt an alternative method of voting from the existing First Past The Post for each profession. For example proportional voting by way of a Single Transferable Vote system.

Decision

The meeting is requested to make recommendations to the Health Professions Council on how to restructure the Council.

Background information

Paper on Single Transferable Vote (STV).

Discussion paper on proposed changes to the constitution of the Council.

Resource implications

None.

Financial implications

None.

Background papers

None.

Appendices

None.