

**Health Professions Council**  
**12<sup>th</sup> September 2006**  
**Review of Aspirant Groups**

**Executive Summary and Recommendations**

**Introduction**

Under Part II of the Health Professions Council Order, 2001, article (17):

“The Council may -

(a) make recommendations to the Secretary of State concerning any profession which in its opinion should be regulated pursuant to section 60(1)(b) of the Health Act 1999; and

(b) give such guidance as it sees fit, to such persons as seem to it to have an interest in such regulation, on the criteria to be taken into account in determining whether a profession should be so regulated.”

The Council agreed the procedures and documentation for the process of considering applications for regulation in spring 2003. The process was revised in spring 2004 to allow Council to consider an application over two meetings i.e. (i) the executive presents the assessment of the application at the first meeting and (ii) the applicant group are invited to give a presentation at the subsequent meeting addressing any shortfalls which may have been identified in the assessment and also providing Council with information about the profession.

In light of the many approaches from aspirant groups and a number of applications which have been considered by Council since March 2003, Council is now requested to the review of whole project of aspirant groups.

**Recommendations**

Council is requested to note:

- 1. The number of aspirant groups who have contacted HPC with a view to statutory regulation.**
- 2. The number of aspirant groups who Council has recommended for statutory regulation.**

3. **The executive's estimated timeframe for opening parts of the HPC Register.** (Council is requested to note that this is not a confirmed timetable and may be subject to a number of factors such as the outcome of the Foster Review Consultation (post November 2006), Council's consideration of applications from those groups who have yet to submit an application to Council, the outcome of the public consultation which occurs after HPC has made the recommendation to the Secretary of State for Health, the Department of Health resources and parliamentary time.

**Resource implications**

None

**Financial implications**

None

**Background Papers**

None

**Appendices**

The following appendices are enclosed for reference:-

1. Details of Aspirant Groups who have contacted HCP seeking statutory regulation.  
*Appendix 1*
  
2. The review of aspirant groups who have applied to HPC regarding statutory regulation and for whom Council has made a decision.  
*Appendix 2*
  
3. Proposed Regulation Timetable of Aspirant Groups for whom Council has made a decision and who have been allocated Department of Health resources and parliamentary time.  
*Appendix 3*