Chair's Report – March 2021

1. Purpose of Report

To update Council about the Chair's activity and developments on HCPC issues and to give colleagues an opportunity to update Council on projects and initiatives referenced herein.

2. Covid-19

At its meeting in February 2021 Council agreed, in private session, that draft plans to embrace the digital and operational gains of the pandemic period in HCPC's future organisation, should be developed to the next stage.

3. A Culture of Learning

Our two Council Apprentices are making a strong contribution to Committee work (ARAC and PRC). They have recorded interviews about the reasons for their becoming HCPC 'voices' for engagement with our employees, and these were circulated to Council Members.

I hope to raise, in an early meeting with the new PSA Chair, the result of a recent PSA consultation that maintained the status quo of the Authority's policy on redaction. The consequence is a limitation on what we can achieve through positive action.

I continue to engage, where appropriate, with individuals whose experiences can teach us about organisational and system improvements. We must create a virtuous circle that involves applying what is learned from engaging with registrants and service users.

4. Communications

The focus of my engagement programme currently remains the pandemic, and wider workplace reform.

5. System mutual support

Regular dates are now in place to meet Chief AHP's and Scientific Officers in Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales.

As my meeting list shows, the HCPC, GMC and NMC continue to meet on a regular basis to share intelligence and reflections on topical issues. I also have a

programme of meeting other regulators and leaders of professional bodies; which may sometimes be on an ad hoc basis.

Strategy and Policy

5.1. Strategy

The priorities for the HCPC in year one of the strategy period have now been agreed, and an easily navigable and flexible corporate plan is ready for Council's final agreement.

5.2. Change Plan

Moving more online, and shifting functions online, is a work in progress for HCPC. It is certainly transformative for the organisation. In thinking about 'the future' we are considering the opportunities offered by new and emerging technologies.

5.3. Proposed Fee Increase

On March 16, the Scottish Health and Sport Committee approved both HCPC Statutory Instruments, an important stage to have passed. Any MSP then has until 3 April to table a motion opposing it. There were no further comments from anyone else, and signs 'round the table' that the revised proposal has gained support.

5.4. Risk Appetite

A new set of Strategic Risks is being presented to the Council at its March meeting for adoption following Audit and Risk Assurance Committee consultation.

5.5. Finance

With the advent of a new Executive Director of Corporate Services, the Executive is taking the opportunity of a review of financial planning. This, together with the impending decision on a proposed fee increase, has resulted in a short delay before the proposed final annual budget is presented. In the meantime, a cautious approach on spending decisions has been adopted.

6. Chair's meetings

Regular internal meetings, such as weekly catch up with CEO, are not listed.

Date	Meeting
Feb. 10	- Former Chief Economist, FCA (evidence-based regulation)
Feb. 11	- Chair, GMC - Digital credentials webinar
Feb. 16	- Senior Council Member - Director of Corporate Services (onboarding)
Feb. 18	- LEGO webinar on innovation - Acting Chair, NMC
Feb. 23	- Major ICS Chair
Feb. 24	- HCPC Registrant (FtP learning) - Society of Editors - Webinar including Anthony Fauci MD (NIAID Director) and Nadhim Zahawi MP (Under-Secretary of State for COVID-19 Vaccine Deployment)
Feb. 25	- Council - Dr. Emma Williams (Open University)
March 1	- Claire Armstrong (Director for Mental Health and Disabilities, Shielding and Volunteering at Department of Health and Social Care) - Chief Executive, NMC (re FtP learning)
March 2	- McKinsey/Teradata round table on transformative leadership
March 4	- GCC Chair
March 8	- Rachael Maskell MP
March 9	- People and Resources Committee
March 10	- Service user (FtP and system learning)
March 11	- Cityforum Chair - IORMA webinar (AI, chatbots etc.)
March 15	- Senior Executives HCPC (FtP, registrant and employee wellbeing) - Senior Council Member
March 16	- Baroness Goudie - PSA Chair and CEO (introductory meeting) - GOC Chair (introductory meeting)