

**BACP PPC Committee Meeting  
Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2024  
MS Teams at 13:30hrs**

**Report Information**

<b>Meeting Date</b>	28 August 2024
<b>Venue</b>	Teams
<b>Confidential/Non-Confidential</b>	Confidential
<b>Author/Presenter</b>	Ruzina Miah, Governance Manager

**Purpose of the Report  
(Please tick all that apply)**

To obtain approval	✓	To canvas opinion	
For information/ to note	✓	Regulatory requirement	
To provide advice		To highlight any emerging risks	

**Summary of Report**

(Include key points and additional information as necessary regarding the purpose of the report.)

Minutes from the BACP PPC Committee Meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

**Recommendations**

The PPC Committee are invited to:

**Consider** and **approve** the minutes of the Meeting of the BACP PPC Committee Meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> August 2024 and **confirm** actions allocated at that meeting have been completed.

<b>BACP PPC Committee Meeting</b> <b>Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2024</b> <b>MS Teams at 10:00 hrs</b>		
<b>Committee Members Present</b>	Marc Leppard	Chair of PPC and Trustee
	Ciaran Doyle	Committee Member
	Leon White	Committee Member
	Dr Paul Taylor	Committee Member
<b>BACP Staff Present</b>	Caroline Jesper	Head of Professional Standards
	Dr Lisa Morrison Coulthard	Director of Professional standards, Policy and Research
	Ruzina Miah	Governance Manager
<b>Apologies</b>	Philip Matthews	Committee Member

**Public Protection Committee (PPC) Meeting Minutes**  
 Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2024  
 10:00 - 12:30 hrs via Microsoft Teams

Chair: Marc Leppard  
 In attendance: PPC Committee Members and BACP Staff

Item No	General business
1.0	<b>Preliminary matters</b>
1.1	<p>Welcome, introductions, apologies and quoracy</p> <p>The Chair welcomed all in attendance. Apologies were noted from Philip Matthews. The meeting was noted as quorate.</p>
1.2	<p>Declarations of interest</p> <p>It was noted that all practitioner members may have a potential conflict of interest in relation to SCoPEd, as changes to admission or senior accreditation could impact them personally. However, their input is still valuable due to their practical understanding of these changes.</p>
1.3	<p>Minutes of last meeting held on 4 July 2024</p> <p>The Chair indicated an intention to focus on the SCoPEd paper during the session. The minutes, tracker, and actions were agreed to be addressed in the next meeting to allow more time for the current discussion.</p>
1.4	<p>Items requiring redaction</p> <p>To be discussed at the next meeting.</p>
1.5	<p>Matters arising and review of action tracker</p> <p>Action tracker to be discussed at the next meeting.</p>
2.0	<b>Briefing and Reports</b>
2.1	<p>The proposed new SCoPEd aligned accreditation schemes and associated routes</p> <p>The report was presented by the Head of Professional Standards. The report provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a summary of the development and oversight processes and procedures involved in the development of the new SCoPEd aligned accreditation schemes and associated routes.</li> <li>- an outline of the new routes to individual accreditation (SCoPEd column B) and Senior accreditation (SCoPEd column C).</li> <li>- the criteria for the new accreditation schemes and their associated routes going to the Board for approval in September 2024.</li> </ul>

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The discussion addressed various issues related to dual membership, accreditation, ethical standards, and public protection. Concerns were raised about criticisms directed at senior accreditation, but it was noted that there had been minimal feedback regarding individual accreditation since the introduction of SCoPEd. Accreditation remained voluntary, and members were expected to work within their competencies.

It was highlighted that dual membership did not automatically imply higher accreditation, and clear communication from members was necessary to avoid confusion. Potential competition issues were discussed, as were the implications of an external association suspending a member's accreditation. The ongoing review of SCoPEd partnership standards was intended to ensure high ethical standards across all organisations.

The process of handling complaints involving dual members was also examined. Clarification was sought on which professional body should handle complaints and whether mechanisms for joint investigations existed. The possibility of future consolidation of complaint teams was raised, and a public-facing website was being developed to provide clearer information about accreditation and membership.

Additionally, efforts were being made to align ethical frameworks across partner organisations, while maintaining specific codes relevant to each body. The withdrawal of a signatory from the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on conversion therapy highlighted some differences, but it was affirmed that all members would adhere to the organisation's equality, diversity and inclusion standards. A focus was placed on ensuring consistent disciplinary actions, irrespective of dual membership.

It was also confirmed that international members' qualifications would be assessed separately from the SCoPEd framework, ensuring that those relocating to the UK who are eligible, could meet the required standards. Furthermore, an exceptional route for accreditation was discussed, allowing experienced individuals without prior accreditation to apply, provided they met the updated eligibility criteria.

Concerns regarding the cross-referral of complaints between professional bodies were noted, and a new data-sharing agreement between SCOPEd partners was signed to facilitate better information exchange. The PPC was advised to confirm that the organisation's standards could be applied to all members, ensuring clarity in communication with the Board.

**Action 1: DPSPR to verify whether a mechanism for cross-referring complaints between professional complaint teams under the data-sharing agreement existed. To be confirmed and communicated later.**

The discussion addressed route 5 in the accreditation process, focusing on whether it had been tested for equality, diversity, and inclusion (EDI), particularly for those on paternity or maternity leave. It was confirmed that extenuating circumstances would be considered, allowing deferred members an extended window to resubmit applications beyond the standard

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six months. Although the transition period would close in January 2026, the policy would remain for those with valid reasons.

The role of supervisors in verifying applicants' evidence was also clarified. Supervisors would confirm that the evidence aligns with their experience of the supervisee, without assessing competence. Guidance and support for supervisors were being developed, including a presentation at an annual supervisor event, which would be recorded for future access.

The discussion addressed the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) route, explaining that applicants would not have their training directly assessed. Instead, they would demonstrate how their CPD training or experience developed their competencies and applied to their practice. Reflective practice criteria would require case material for evidence. Additionally, a subgroup was formed to explore mutual recognition of accredited progression training among partners.

The committee were requested to provide the Board of Governors with assurances that the accreditation schemes and routes have undergone sufficient due process and scrutiny to ensure they are fit for purpose.

The Chair summarised the current position, stating that approval for recommendations to the Board was generally agreed upon, with specific conditions. These included:

- ensuring BACP standards apply to dual members,
- having proper information-sharing mechanisms with other associations for disciplinary actions,
- recognising extenuating circumstances for senior accredited members after the window closes
- the ability to reject dual members based on competence and training was also emphasised
- clarification was provided on member consultation, noting that extensive consultations had occurred, especially regarding the SCoPEd framework and accreditation alignments.

**Action 2: HOPS to include in the Board pack a clear statement about the extent of member consultation that has taken place regarding the SCoPEd framework, ensuring it is evident that significant consultation has occurred.**

The committee considered and endorsed the development and oversight process and procedures involved in the development of accreditation schemes, and agreed to provide a recommendation to the Board for approval subject to the above conditions being met.

3.0	AOB
3.1	There were no further items raised for discussion.
4.0	2024 meetings

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4.1 The dates of the next meeting were noted as:

04th October 2024

13th February 2025

Meeting closed: 15:00 hrs

**Summary of actions**

Action No.	Agenda Item	Actions
1	2.1	DPSPR to verify whether a mechanism for cross-referring complaints between professional complaint teams under the data-sharing agreement existed. To be confirmed and communicated later.
2	2.1	HOPS to include in the Board pack a clear statement about the extent of member consultation that has taken place regarding the SCoPEd framework, ensuring it is evident that significant consultation has occurred.

**Recommendations**

Number.	Agenda Item	Recommendation
1	2.1	The committee considered and endorsed the development and oversight process and procedures involved in the development of accreditation schemes, and agreed to provide a recommendation to the Board for approval subject to conditions stated above.

Approved by Chair Marc Leppard on behalf of the Committee

Date

