

STATUTORY REGULATION AND BEYOND

The Position of the Minster Centre

Spring 2011

The Prospect of Statutory Regulation

When the Government was planning statutory regulation through HPC, the Minster Centre backed the UKCP's multi-path approach because we felt, and still feel, that:

- our members should have choice, and
- both Psychotherapy and Counselling would benefit from a multiplicity of approaches.

The Government's Current Stance

The Health and Social Care Bill 2011 (currently making its way through Parliament) and *Enabling Excellence: Autonomy and Accountability for Healthcare Workers, Social Workers and Social Care Workers* – a Command Paper, published on 16 February 2011 – make it clear that this Government does not intend to impose statutory regulation and will pursue 'assured voluntary registration'.

Assured Voluntary Registration

One of the new proposals amounts to official 'kite-marking' for existing voluntary regulating bodies like UKCP and BACP; this would be done through the Council for Healthcare Regulatory Excellence (CHRE).

Another government suggestion is that the HPC may run a voluntary register for our profession.

The Minster Centre's Position

- As can be seen from the above, the way forward is not clear.
- We are continuing to work through our existing regulating bodies – UKCP and BACP – to understand the nuances of these new paths.
- Our aim is to help craft an approach that gives our members both protection of title and choice in the management of their careers.

We will use our website to keep you informed of developments as they occur. We welcome your involvement in this process. If you have any queries or comments about regulation, please email: info@minstercentre.org.uk.

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