

CAHSC: small but necessary

Throughout 2016 CAHSC has continued in its role as the voluntary regulator for the anthrohealth and social care sector. It maintains a watching brief on the health and social care regulatory sector, particularly the work of the Professional Standards Authority [www.professionalstandards.org.uk], and its accredited register [AR] scheme. It responds to relevant consultations.

Having commented on the National Institute for Health & Care Excellence [NICE] guideline on supportive and palliative care in adults and on the proposal to remove recommendations on complementary therapies, CAHSC was heartened that NICE decided to retain the recommendations, deeming them to be 'important and still relevant'

The Professionals Standards Authority [PSA] is responsible for regulating the regulators in the UK. In 2012 it launched its accredited register scheme for voluntary regulatory organisations, such as CAHSC. CAHSC was extensively involved in the original scoping and development of standards exercises but disappointed that the final process and fees set by the PSA excluded all but the largest organisations from applying. For 2016 the Professional Standards Authority fees for applications to its accredited register [AR] scheme increased [£12,485] as did its annual re-registration fee [£9,364]. Consequently, CAHSC's position with regards the AR scheme remains unchanged and it has not, for reasons of finance and staff resources, applied for membership of the scheme. There are currently 23 organisations the Accredited Register with 2 more in process. The majority are large organisation with considerable resources.

Despite this, it remains the view from the international & UK Medical Sections that CAHSC still has a role to play as a voluntary regulator.

Registration news

To date the CAHSC has registered **118** anthroposophic health and social care professionals across the 10 professions it regulates. The number of registrants has fallen again slightly this year [121 in December 2015] mainly due to retirement and relocation.

Profession	AC	AM	AN	AP	AST	ATA	ATS	ET	RMT	ASC	Total
Registered	5	11	1	0	2	31	4	34	13	17	118

Of particular concern is the reduction in the number of doctors on the register [currently only 11] which reflects the falling number of practising anthro-doctors in the UK & Ireland and a lack of their replacement by doctors coming through the anthro-doctors training.

Requests for anthro-doctors remain the most common requests received by the CAHSC office. In addition, there are no longer any anthro-pharmacists on the CAHSC register since the last member retired from practice this year.

There's plenty of information about registration and its benefits for practitioners on the CAHSC website. For those who want to apply, a registration pack can be downloaded from the CAHSC website <http://www.cahsc.org/apply-for-registration> **Please encourage those not yet registered with us to do so.**

CAHSC website: communication possibilities

The CAHSC website continues to provide a one stop resource for information for the public and for practitioners. In addition, registrants can log in to **MyCAHSC**, a password protected area of the site, to update their details and manage their registration. Given the financial constraints under which CAHSC operates, the website is vital to retaining efficiency whilst reducing administration time through automated registration reminders.

The web-based CAHSC registrant mail-out facility continues to provide a communication service to the wider anthrohealth and social care sector. The registrar can email either all registrants or practitioner sub-groups at the press of a button. This facility has been used to circulate information about trainings, job opportunities and other relevant anthrohealth/social care news. The posting of events on the CAHSC website under the news section is another option. Associations or registrants wishing to make use of either facility should contact the registrar, admin@cahsc.org. Decisions regarding circulation of information through CAHSC or website postings will be at the discretion of the CAHSC council.

There have been very few glitches in the website system during 2016, and those occurring this have been promptly resolved by the CAHSC web manager. Thanks to those registrants who have emailed to let us know when there has been a problem. Please continue to do so!

If you have any comments or suggestions for improvement, please let us know:
admin@cahsc.org

International quality mark

The **international quality mark** for anthroposophic medicine AnthroMed® has been available to all CAHSC registrants since December 2013. To date **62** registrants have applied for the mark. Given that the mark is free on registration, we would encourage all registrants to apply.



The international AnthroMed website [www.anthromed.de/en/] has not as yet been reconfigured to accommodate all practitioner groups registered with the CAHSC. Currently

only CAHSC registered eurythmy and therapeutic arts therapists are listed on the international site and even these require to be updated. It is hoped that this may be resolved during 2017.

Aim of the mark

The AnthroMed® mark will distinguish CAHSC registrants from other anthroposophic health and social care professionals. As the international quality mark for anthroposophic medicine*, it will help assure the public, service users and purchasers of **quality, professionalism and good practice in anthroposophic health and social care.**

As registration with the CAHSC is the only way for individual practitioners in the UK & Ireland to access the mark we hope that the mark will encourage those not yet registered to do so.

[* in this context, anthroposophic medicine includes relevant anthroposophic therapies, curative education/social pedagogy and social therapy.]

Apply for the mark

We strongly encourage **all our registrants to make use of the mark**, which makes visible their association with the international quality assured network for anthroposophic medicine.

Applying is simple and it's free! Simply **download an AnthroMed application pack** from the CAHSC website <http://www.cahsc.org/anthromed-apply-individual>, complete the form and send it to the CAHSC office. Registrants can apply for the mark at any time.

Finances

CAHSC continues to manage its resources efficiently but continues to be dependent on the generous hosting offered by Camphill Wellbeing Trust in Aberdeen.

As income from registration fees for the CAHSC financial year ending 31 August 2016 was only **£7270** [2015 £8080], the CAHSC council is grateful to the organisations who have supported CAHSC through donations: Anthroposophic Medical Association, the Eurythmy Therapy Association, Camphill Newton Dee community and Pericles. Thanks are also due to the small band of donors whose direct debits over the year contributed £1205.

CAHSC has applied for funding to the Anthroposophical Medical Trust and the Anthroposophical Society in Great Britain. The outcome of the later application will not be known until Spring 2017.

About us

Our purpose

Our purpose is to help protect the public by promoting good practice in anthroposophic health & social care, which includes maintaining the reputation of the professions regulated.

To do this we:

- register professionals who meet and maintain our standards for their knowledge, skills, character and health
- set standards for practice and conduct
- specify requirements for education and training
- deal with concerns about the fitness to practise of registrants

Our part in the wider picture

As the voluntary regulator for the anthroposophic health and social care professions in the UK and Ireland we play our part in the wider anthroposophic health, education and social care movement (AHaSC).

The existence of a self-regulator, with the standards it sets for registration in terms of education, training, experience and continuing professional development, sends the clear message that those engaged in anthroposophic health and social care ARE professionals who take seriously their responsibilities to reach and maintain professional standards in their anthroposophic practice.

Can we help you?

We will be happy to meet to help applicants with their registration forms. If you have any comments or questions we would be happy to hear them at admin@cahsc.org or **01224 869844**

Contact us:

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