

CAHSC: remaining small

Throughout 2018 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.

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. There are currently 26 organisations on the Accredited Register with 2 more in process.

CAHSC has reviewed the potential for it to apply, but the Professional Standards Authority fees for applications to its accredited register [AR] scheme [£13,250 for 2018] and annual re-registration fee [£10,000 + £0.10/registrant], are prohibitive for small organisations such as CAHSC. The CAHSC's position with regards the AR scheme remains unchanged, namely that it cannot for reasons of finance and staff resources, apply for membership of the scheme.

Registration news

Currently CAHSC has **104** anthroposophic health and social care professionals across the 9 professions it regulates on its register. However, following a trend visible since 2015, the number of registrants has fallen again this year [from 110 in December 2017]. This is mainly due to retirement and relocation.

Profession	AC	AM	AN	AST	ATA	ATS	ET	RMT	ASC	Total
Registered	4	10	1	2	30	4	28	15	10	104

With regards the future availability of anthroposophic medicine in the UK and Ireland the low number of doctors on the register [10] is an on-going concern. This reflects the falling number of practising anthro-doctors in the UK & Ireland and 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.

Information about registration and its benefits for practitioners can be found on the CAHSC website. For those who want to apply, a registration pack can also be downloaded:

<http://www.cahsc.org/apply-for-registration>

2019 opinion survey

Due to the continuing trend of falling registrant numbers, CAHSC's medium term future remains under ongoing review. To gauge the continuation and importance of CAHSC for the anthroposophic health and social care sector in the UK & Ireland, registrants and anthroposophic organisations, CAHSC plans to send a **questionnaire** to registrants and relevant stakeholders in 2019.

CAHSC website: upgrades and issues

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.

Due to web hosting changes and upgrades to the security on the CAHSC site, we have experienced a number of issues with the CAHSC registrant alerts and mail-out facility. Thanks to those registrants who have emailed to let us know when there has been a problem.

We can only apologise for any inconvenience this has caused and we regret that due to this CAHSC has not been able to provide a reliable communication service to the wider anthrohealth and social care sector. At the time of this report, the facility is still experiencing problems and will not be used until these issues are fully resolved.

International quality mark

The **international quality mark** for anthroposophic medicine AnthroMed® has been available to all CAHSC registrants since December 2013. To date **51** registrants have applied for the mark, which is available free to all CAHSC registrants.

AnthroMed®
PRACTITIONER UK/IE

Unfortunately, the international AnthroMed website [www.anthromed.de/en/] remains unconfigured to accommodate all practitioner groups registered with the CAHSC. Only CAHSC registered eurythmy and therapeutic arts therapists are listed on the international site and even these require to be updated. It is not clear if or when this may be resolved.

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.**

Registration with the CAHSC is the only way for individual practitioners in the UK & Ireland to access the mark.

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

Apply for the mark

We 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! **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 and the financial support of various organisations.

As income from registration fees for the CAHSC financial year ending 31 August 2018 was only **£7120** [2017 £7235], the CAHSC council is grateful to the organisations who have supported CAHSC through donations: Anthroposophic Medical Association, Anthroposophic Medical Trust, the Eurythmy Therapy Association, Pericles and Camphill Newton Dee community. Thanks are also due to the small band of donors whose direct debits over the year contributed **£639**.

The Anthroposophical Society in Great Britain has not been willing to consider CAHSC for funding - a situation which the CAHSC Board finds extremely disappointing.

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 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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