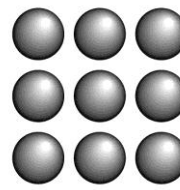


**Council Meeting**

**26 January 2012**

**Paper 6**



**council for  
healthcare  
regulatory  
excellence**

**Purpose: For approval/consideration**

## **Standards for appointments to regulators' councils**

### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The Health and Social Care Bill currently being debated in Parliament makes provision for the Privy Council to ask for advice from the Professional Standards Authority on the process adopted by regulators with respect to appointments to their councils.
- 1.2 This paper provides an update on our progress in preparing for this new role and ahead of discussions about our proposed approach with interested parties.

### **2. Recent developments**

- 2.1 We have been working with colleagues from the Appointments Commission and the regulators to develop a process that will allow us to adopt a proportionate approach to this new responsibility. Annex 1 describes our current proposals for our advisory role, amended in the light of comments from the regulators. This includes plans for work over the summer to familiarise ourselves with the processes the regulators will use to manage appointments to Councils. We plan to complement this process paper with a guidance document on good practice. This builds on the experience and expertise of the Appointments Commission in this area, and will be tailored to the particular needs of the health professional regulators.

### **3. Timescale**

- 3.1 The delay in transition to the Professional Standards Authority means that we will not be asked to advise on appointments processes until December 2012 at the earliest. However, given the long lead times involved in making appointments can take, we will aim to finalise our process and guidance for regulators before the Summer. This will allow regulators to take our process and guidance into account before we can formally provide advice to the Privy Council.

**4. Next steps**

- 4.1 Subject to Council's approval we intend to discuss our proposed approach more widely with interested parties until the end of March. Alongside this we will work with regulators to develop good practice guidance that will support the adoption of our standards in the appointment scenarios discussed in Annex 1. We have a workshop planned for 13 February to discuss this. Subject to these discussions, we aim to finalise the process and guidance by the end of May 2012.