The British Council for
Therapeutic Interventions With
Children Limited

5 Brayford Square,
London, England,
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www.bctiwc.org/

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday March 17th

Present:
Hazel Colyer (HC) – Chair
Lynne Souter Anderson (LSA) – professional member
Anne Mayer (AM) - professional member
Lorna Lewis (LL) – lay member
Sylvia Lucas (SL) – lay member

In attendance:
Monika Jephcott (MJ) PTUK
Jeff Thomas (JT) PTUK

1. Chair's opening remarks
Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence
None

3. Conflict of Interest Declaration
HC reminded members of the requirement to declare any specific conflict of interest for agenda items if necessary.

4. Minutes of meeting held on 15th October 2015
These were agreed as correct record.

5. Matters arising (not on the agenda)
None

6. BCTIWC Annual Report Oct 2014 – Feb 2016
This was welcomed and approved. LSA noted that it was a good aid to transparency and clarified the role of BCTIWC for the PSA

7. Audit of PTUK Register Nov 2015
The report of the Chair's annual audit visit was discussed by members. It had raised a specific issue in regard to the maintenance of client confidentiality and a general issue about the volume of data being sought from registrants. Both matters had been discussed by the PTUK Board at their

December meeting and the outcome documented in the December 2015 minutes, which had been circulated to the Council. It was agreed that the response was satisfactory.

8. PSA annual review & accreditation of PTUK assured register Feb 2016
JT reported that the document had been submitted by 1st February but the outcome had not yet been received.

Action: JT to communicate any learning points for the BCTIWC electronically.

9. Registrants' revalidation 2016
9.1 MJ reported that, of approximately 1230 people who needed to revalidate, 1160 had renewed by the first week in February. She noted that about 100 of these were approved supervisors. PTUK was concerned that some trainees had not renewed, which would mean that their portfolios could not be marked since they did not have approved supervision and therefore their clinical hours would not count. Council was pleased to hear that the revalidation process using CAERUS was well-embedded and that no major changes had occurred for 2016. They noted that a proposed change from Excel to Access for 2017 would improve the process further.

9.2 A small number of registrants (10 approximately) had decided not to renew and it was understood that they had been accepted onto the BACP register instead. There was evidence from social media posts that, despite BACP putting a statement on their website that they do not recognise play therapy qualifications *on their own* as meeting core practitioner standards for registration, play therapists are being accepted onto the accredited register as counsellor/psychotherapists. It was noted that BACP have a children and young people division and had introduced standards for young people during 2015. They do not have any training standards for children.

SL asked where the borderline was between a child and a young person. JT said that this was at about the age of 12 years although it would vary. The primary/secondary school transition is usually the borderline. APAC had introduced a post-qualifying certificate for play therapists who wished to use talking therapies with their clients.

Members were concerned about the ambiguities highlighted by these recent developments. They were particularly concerned that parents and carers seeking help for their child's social, emotional and/or behavioural difficulties should be able to quickly and easily find a suitably qualified and competent therapist with specific skills and competences related to children. However, they were also unclear how adults seeking a BACP accredited counsellor can be assured that the person they choose is appropriately qualified if play therapy qualifications *on their own* are acceptable for membership.

Action: It was agreed that the Chair would write to the BACP and seek clarification.

10. Policy Review
JT had circulated 2 draft data protection policies for review prior to the meeting, one for PTUK and a model policy for registrants to use. However, since attending a recent national conference organised by the ICO, about the forthcoming publication of the EU General Data Protection Regulation (EUGDPR) in July 2016, he anticipated that changes, possibly major, would need to be made to the present draft. Therefore, JT proposed that publication of a registrants' model framework be postponed until the Autumn/Winter 2016. LSA suggested offering workshops and/or online support and guidance to registrants for this development.

Action: Council approved the draft data protection policy for PTUK.

11. Financial Report

HC reported that the balance at the bank at the year-end (29th February) was £2293.87p A further injection of cash was not needed at this time.

12. Any other business

HC has attended a PSA public engagement consultation event on 14th March. This had comprised presentations about new performance review arrangements for statutory registers and the ARs. There had also been an opportunity to review the new PSA website, which was under development and a workshop about how to improve engagement with the public. The day had been very useful.

13. Date of next meeting

Thursday 3rd November at 10.30 at 24 Elm Quay Court