Accredited Registers

Condition Review: British Psychoanalytic Council (BPC)

1. Outcome

1.1 At the British Psychoanalytic Council (BPC)'s accreditation, the Professional Standards Authority issued three Conditions on its accreditation, one of which was to be completed by 6 October 2023 (see paragraph 4.8 of the published outcome).

1.2 This report sets out our assessment of the actions taken by the BPC to satisfy the Condition.

1.3 We found that the BPC had met Condition Three.

2. Background

2.1 We assess registers against our *Standards for Accredited Registers* ('the Standards')[1]. Where a Register has not met a Standard, we can issue Conditions. A Condition sets out the requirements and the timeframe that a Register must meet.

2.2 At BPC's accreditation renewal, completed in April 2022 we issued Three Conditions (a full list is published on the BPC's directory page), Condition Three had to be implemented by 6 October 2023:

Condition Three: The BPC is to publish clear information about the education and training outcomes needed for registration with the BPC within 18 months. This should set out the standards of education and training that its MIs are required to deliver for their specialisms to be accredited by the BPC. This should be used to underpin decisions by a MI that a registrant has met the requisite standards for registration with the BPC, whether through its training or demonstrating equivalence

2.3 This report discusses the actions BPC took to address the Condition, as well as our decision about whether the Condition is met.

2.4 We reviewed the following evidence:

a) BPC's reported actions about what it had done to meet Condition Three

3. Concerns leading to the Condition

3.1 The BPC accredits training delivered by its Member Institutions (MIs). Practitioners must successfully complete an accredited training course with a MI or be determined by the MI to have demonstrated equivalence, to register with the BPC. The MI then sends them an application form for registration with the BPC, which covers broader requirements such as asking for declarations that the registrant will abide by its Codes and Terms of Conditions. The BPC's Registration Committee re-accredits MI training every five years, and an External Examiner conducts an annual quality assurance check.

[1] Accredited Registers Evidence framework 2023 (professionalstandards.org.uk)

3.2 The background for this condition being issued is that it appeared there was little information published on the BPC's website about the BPC's education and training standards. This made it difficult to identify information, such as the level of qualification required by the BPC, for registration through its MIs.

3.3 Further details can be found under Standard Four of the BPC's accreditation renewal outcome [2].

4. Assessment of Condition Three

4.1 The BPC provided its response to the Condition on 4 August 2023.

4.2 We considered a response from the BPC in which they advised us they created a new page on their website to show the practice and theory requirements for Registrants to meet in order to register with them, either by having completed one of the BPC's trainings or by being granted equivalence.

4.3 We have considered that while this page does not explicitly state required qualifications for registration, the BPC have provided a clear link to their MI's websites, which do stipulate the requirements for registrants.

4.4 The MI's websites all make clear, their requirements for registrants. We have considered that it is likely to be difficult for the BPC to specify qualification types given the large number and variety of MI's, and their training programmes.

4.5 This does not raise concerns about the level of training, since having achieved a degree level qualification in a relevant field appears a requirement for this further training with the MI.

4.6 We are satisfied that their approach of clearly linking to the MI's webpage is transparent. We are also satisfied that each MI sets out their requirements for registrants and consider this to satisfy the condition.

4.7 The BPC also provides clear information about their equivalence processes for prospective registrants, as set out on their website.

5. Conclusion

5.1 While we note that information about education and training outcomes required for registration with the BPC may be high level, we are satisfied that the BPC has addressed this condition.

5.2 We have considered that while the BPC themselves have not published explicit guidelines regarding registrant requirements, their signposting to their MI's is an appropriate solution to this point. We are also satisfied that the BPC has published clear equivalence guidelines and criteria for how they accredit various training specialisms is clearly located on their website.

5.3 As such, we are satisfied with the actions completed by the BPC to address this condition and consider Condition Three to be met.

[2] BPC annual review 2022 outcome (professionalstandards.org.uk)