

Accreditation renewal report

Standards 1-8

British Association of Play Therapists (BAPT)

May 2024

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About accreditation

The Professional Standards Authority (the Authority) accredits registers of people working in a variety of health and social care occupations that are not regulated by law. To become an Accredited Register, organisations holding registers of unregulated health and social care roles must prove that they meet our *Standards for Accredited Registers* (the Standards).

Initial accreditation decisions are made by an Accreditation Panel following an assessment of the organisation against the Standards by the Accreditation team. The Panel decides whether to accredit an organisation or not. The Panel can also decide to accredit with Conditions and provide Recommendations to the organisation.

- **Condition** – Issued when a Panel has determined that a Standard has not been met. A Condition sets out the requirements needed for the Accredited Register to meet the Standards, within a set timeframe. It may also reduce the period of accreditation subject to a review or the Condition being met.
- **Recommendation** – Actions that would improve practice and benefit the operation of the Register, but which is not a current requirement for accreditation to be maintained.

This assessment was carried out against our Standards for Accredited Registers¹ (“the Standards”) and our minimum requirements for the Standards as set out in our Evidence framework². More about how we assess against Standard One can be found in our Supplementary Guidance for Standard One³.

We used the following in our assessment of the BAPT:

- Documentary review of evidence supplied by the BAPT and gathered from public sources such as its website
- Due diligence checks
- Share your experience (SYE) responses
- Assessment of the BAPT’s complaints procedures.

¹ https://www.professionalstandards.org.uk/docs/default-source/publications/standards/standards-for-accredited-registers.pdf?sfvrsn=e2577e20_8

² https://www.professionalstandards.org.uk/docs/default-source/accredited-registers/standards-for-accredited-registers/accredited-registers-evidence-framework-for-standards.pdf?sfvrsn=55f4920_9

³ https://www.professionalstandards.org.uk/docs/default-source/accredited-registers/standards-for-accredited-registers/accredited-registers-supplementary-guidance-for-standard-one.pdf?sfvrsn=3e5f4920_6

The Outcome

The Accreditation Panel met on 27 February 2024 consider the British Association of Play Therapists (BAPT). The Panel was satisfied that the BAPT met or could meet with Conditions / all the Standards for Accredited Registers.

We therefore decided to renew accreditation of the BAPT with Conditions

We noted the following **positive findings**:

- BAPT provides detailed information on play therapy through their website and educational leaflets, aiding comprehension for parents and children.
- BAPT actively promotes inclusivity, integrating diversity into training programmes and established a dedicated subcommittee to focus on equality and diversity issues.
- BAPT engages with other accredited bodies and stakeholders, maintaining transparent communication and a comprehensive Public Engagement Strategy on their website.

We issued the following Conditions to be implemented by the deadline given:

Conditions	Deadline
Standard 2 1. The BAPT must develop procedures that ensure registrants disclose relevant professional conduct decisions, and that it has mechanisms to act on these.	26 November 2024
Standard 5 2. The BAPT must develop clear thresholds and criteria detailed when complaints may be suitable for informal resolution or must be escalated to formal procedures. This is to be implemented within six months. 3. The BAPT must develop processes for the recruitment, training and ongoing monitoring of key decision makers for disciplinary processes, to ensure they may effectively carry out their roles. This is to be implemented within six months. 4. The BAPT must ensure that interim orders are displayed on register and profile entries, and on outcomes pages. This is to be completed within three months. 5. The BAPT must make clear that complainants act as witnesses and are not required to act as a prosecutor during cases that reach the threshold for formal hearings.	26 November 2024 26 November 2024 26 August 2024 26 November 2024

Standard 6	6. BAPT must enhance transparency through the publication of board minutes and related governance information accessible to the public. This should be implemented within six months of the publication of this report.	26 November 2024
	7. The BAPT should develop an organisational risk register and include regular review of this within its processes. This is to be implemented within six months.	26 November 2024

We issued the following Recommendations to be considered by the next review:

Recommendations		
Standard 5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The BAPT should develop appeal or review procedures for interim orders. 2. The BAPT should review its complaints materials to ensure that all roles within those processes are clearly defined and demonstrate their separation from other BAPT functions. 	
Standard 6	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. The BAPT should develop and publish clear terms of reference for its board and committees to ensure structured governance practices. 	
Standard 8	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. The BAPT should consider how it can enhance accessibility by providing, and signposting to key information about its processes. 	

About the Register

This section provides an overview of the BAPT and its register.

Name of Organisation	British Association of Play Therapists (BAPT)
Website	https://www.bapt.info/
Type of Organisation	Company Limited by Guarantee (registered number: 5477406) and registered charity. (Charity number: 1115673)
Role(s) covered	Registered Play Therapists
Number of registrants	512 as of 1 January 2024
Overview of Governance	A Board of 12 professional and lay members, supported by 10 sub-committees.
Overview of the aims of the register	To nurture, develop and advance the profession and application of Play Therapy through commitment to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raising public and professional awareness of the value of Play Therapy for enhancing the mental health and emotional well-being of children and young people; • Promoting safe, ethical, effective practice of Play Therapy through high quality regulated training, monitored continuing professional development and evidence-based research • Equal opportunities to meet the needs of a diverse population • Maintenance of a strong professional association.

Inherent risks of the practice

This section uses the criteria developed as part of the Authority's *Right Touch Assurance tool*⁴ to give an overview of the work of play therapists.

Risk criteria	Play Therapists
Scale of risk associated with Play Therapists <i>a. What do Play Therapists do?</i> <i>b. How many Play Therapists are there?</i>	<p>a. Play Therapy is based on the belief that children have an innate tendency to engage in play and that play is a natural way for them to communicate their thoughts, feelings, experiences and trauma, process, and master painful or fearful experiences through the safety and psychological distance of play. Play Therapy can help children and young people.</p>

⁴ https://www.professionalstandards.org.uk/docs/default-source/publications/policy-advice/right-touch-assurance---a-methodology-for-assessing-and-assuring-occupational-risk-of-harm91c118f761926971a151ff000072e7a6.pdf?sfvrsn=f537120_14.

<p>c. <i>Where do Play Therapists work?</i></p> <p>d. <i>Size of actual/potential service user group</i></p>	<p>b. There are 512 registrants on the BAPT's register in England, Scotland, and Wales as of 1 January 2024. The PSA also accredits Play Therapy UK, which as of the same date had 2672 registrants. Numbers beyond this are not known.</p> <p>c. Registrants may work in NHS, private clinic, school, local authority, independent children's care homes.</p> <p>d. The BAPT recommends a maximum of four clients to be seen for therapy in one working day, depending on the complexity of the cases and systemic work around the case which may additionally require time.</p>
<p>Means of assurance</p>	<p>The means of assurance will depend on the practise setting. For managed premises such as NHS settings and schools, there will be criminal records and other pre-employment checks required.</p>
<p>About the sector in which play therapist practitioners operate</p>	<p>Play Therapy is a form of counselling for children that builds on this developmentally appropriate form of communication through play. It enables children to explore difficult experiences in a safe environment. The trust, acceptance, boundaries, modelling and reflectiveness of a BAPT Registered Play Therapist working alongside a child playing can enable them to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feel more confident in expressing their thoughts and feelings. • Develop their emotional vocabulary by accessing the language the Play Therapist relates to their experiences. • Develop more socially appropriate behaviour. • Improve their self-image and self-esteem. • Improve concentration and organisation. • Become more confident and creative in their play.
<p>4. Risk perception</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Need for public confidence in Play Therapists?</i> • <i>Need for assurance for employers or other stakeholders?</i> 	<p>Because registrants are likely to work independently or private practice, it is important that members of the public have confidence in the practitioners they choose to deliver therapy.</p> <p>The specific approach of BAPT, which may not always be available as part of mainstream NHS services, makes it important that the public are aware of what to expect from practitioners. Since registrants working with children, it is important that the public can have confidence there are appropriate safeguards in place.</p>

Assessment against the Standards

Standard One: Eligibility and 'public interest test'

- 1.1 We are in the process of assessing all current Accredited Registers against Standard One, which was introduced in July 2021. Decisions about Standard One for current Accredited Registers can be made by the Accreditation Team if no concerns are identified.
- 1.2 We completed our Standard One assessment in February 2024. We found that the BAPT's register falls within the scope of the Accredited Registers programme. We considered that the work of play therapists can be beneficial. We found it is in the public interest to have registers of practitioners who meet appropriate standards of competence, conduct, and business practice, as required by the BAPT.
- 1.3 Consequently, the Accreditation Team found that Standard One was met. We did not identify any new information that could have an impact on this Standard during our assessment of Standards 2 to 8.

Standard 2: Management of the register

Summary

The Accreditation Panel found that Standard Two was met. It issued the following Condition:

Condition:

- The BAPT must develop procedures that ensure registrants disclose relevant professional conduct decisions, and that it has mechanisms to act on these. This is to be implemented within six months.

Accreditation Panel findings

- 2.1 The BAPT operates a public register for practitioners providing play therapy services. Their register is published at: <https://www.bapt.info/play-therapy/register/>. The BAPT also provides a 'Find a Play Therapist' directory which allows registrants to promote their own services and provide contact information at <https://www.bapt.info/play-therapy/find-play-therapist/>. The BAPT's Registrar is responsible for updating and quality assuring the register.
- 2.2 Registration is open to individuals who meet BAPT's qualification requirements, either by having completed a BAPT-accredited course or passed its portfolio route of entry 'for Overseas-Trained applicants working in the UK and for Qualified Play Therapists who trained outside of BAPT Courses in the UK'. Registrants are required to adhere to the BAPT's 'Fitness to Practise' declaration, which encompasses insurance, supervision, and continuing professional development (CPD) obligations. Application and renewal processes may be found on the website.

- 2.3 Register entries clearly state any restrictions of practice resulting from disciplinary outcomes. Information about complaints and how they are handled is linked from directly within the register. Registrants' corresponding personal directory profiles are temporarily removed in instances where any sanction restricts their practice.
- 2.4 The BAPT checks reports of practitioners removed from other regulatory bodies when considering applications for registration or renewal. We noted that applicants must declare if they have been dismissed from employment, or refused membership of another body, due to professional misconduct. The Accreditation Panel noted there was no requirement to declare sanctions issued by other bodies, however, such as conditions, or suspension of registration. Since this presents a risk that the BAPT may not be aware of restrictions in place against its registrant, we issued the following Condition:
 - The BAPT must develop procedures that ensure registrants disclose relevant professional conduct decisions, and that it has proportionate processes to check for, and act on these. This is to be implemented within six months.
- 2.5 The BAPT advised that it would implement such checks. The BAPT's actions to address the Condition will be assessed in due course.

Standard 3: Standards for registrants

Summary

The Accreditation Panel found that Standard Three was met.

Accreditation Panel findings

- 3.1 BAPT sets standards for competence, ethical behaviour, and business practice. Registrants are required to sign agreements at the point of registration in compliance with BAPT's *Ethical Basis for Good Practice in Play Therapy* and agreeing to cooperate with BAPT's Complaints Procedures and any sanctions imposed.
- 3.2 BAPT's professional practice policies are published on their website, providing comprehensive guidance on the expectations for registrants, including safeguarding, ethical standards, and core competencies. These policies can be found at: <https://www.bapt.info/bapt/professional-practice/>.
- 3.3 We noted that the BAPT's *Child Protection & Safeguarding Guidelines* emphasised the duty of registrants to be vigilant and take appropriate actions to safeguard children who may be at risk of harm. They must ensure that any suspicions or concerns are promptly reported to the appropriate services. The Accreditation Panel wished to highlight that although the policy's reference to '*significant harm*' appeared appropriate and in line with statutory guidance, it should ensure that the phrase does not mistakenly deter people from raising concerns based on a perceived criteria or level of harm.
- 3.4 BAPT's requirements for registrants include detailed standards of competence that cover knowledge, understanding, personal development, practice skills,

and necessary personal qualities. These are detailed in the *BAPT Play Therapy Core Competences*, which emphasise ethical behaviour and clinical supervision standards.

- 3.5 BAPT's *Ethical Basis for Good Practice in Play Therapy* sets out the principles registrants must abide by including accountability, honesty, openness, integrity, respect, and the Duty of Candour.
- 3.6 The BAPT requires registrants to adhere to appropriate standards for information sharing, data protection, and confidentiality. Registrants must also demonstrate to the BAPT that they hold appropriate indemnity cover at point of application and annual renewal.
- 3.7 Registrants are required to provide information about the BAPT's *Professional Conduct Policy* to anyone wishing to raise a concern or complaint. Registrants must attempt to resolve concerns in the first instance; however this does not prevent the complainant from first approaching the BAPT.
- 3.8 We noted that although the BAPT does not produce registrant guidance for appropriate advertising, its standards required registrants to ensure 'accuracy of advertising and delineation of service information'. We considered that this, supported by BAPT's regular checks of registrants' websites was sufficient to meet our minimum requirement.

Standard 4: Education and training

The Accreditation Panel found that Standard Four was met.

Accreditation Panel findings

- 4.1 BAPT sets education and training standards to ensure the level of competency required for registration. All registrants must have completed postgraduate-level qualification courses accredited by the BAPT, typically holding a first qualification in a related field such as teaching, social work, or occupational therapy, and possessing extensive experience working with children. For those with qualifications from overseas or from non-accredited programmes, the BAPT assesses competence through a portfolio route. Further information on qualification requirements can be found at:
<https://www.bapt.info/becoming/bapt-play-therapy-qualification/>.
- 4.2 Qualifications leading to eligibility for registration are offered through institutions such as Queen Margaret University, Roehampton University, and the University of South Wales, which provide two or three-year Masters level courses. BAPT revalidates these courses every three years, involving both academic validation by the host institutions and the BAPT's own accreditation. The BAPT engages external examiners within these processes, which include at least one BAPT registrant.
- 4.3 We noted that BAPT's training programmes are designed to equip registrants to care for a diverse population. Policies on equality, diversity, and inclusion are included within course frameworks, ensuring that programmes address issues relating to race, gender, and disability.

- 4.4 The training also includes extensive education about the wider health and social care systems, to ensure that registrants are well-prepared to operate within the UK's health, education, and social care sectors, including public and private. Training modules cover essential aspects of child development, medical conditions, and the legal and social policy environment, ensuring that registrants are competent to make appropriate referrals when necessary.
- 4.5 BAPT's Ethical Basis for Good Practice in Play Therapy requires registrants to act within their scope of competence, which includes making referrals for further professional advice, care, or treatment when client needs exceed their capability or level of functioning.
- 4.6 Transparency of education and training is maintained, with clear information provided to the public about the type and level of qualifications required for entry to the register. BAPT's registration process and qualification details are accessible via its website, ensuring clarity and transparency for prospective registrants and the public.

Standard 5: Complaints and concerns about registrations

The Accreditation Panel found that Standard Five was met. It issued the following Conditions and Recommendations:

Conditions:

- The BAPT must develop clear thresholds and criteria detailed when complaints may be suitable for informal resolution or must be escalated to formal procedures. This is to be implemented within six months.
- The BAPT must develop processes for the recruitment, training and ongoing monitoring of key decision makers for disciplinary processes, to ensure they may effectively carry out their roles. This is to be implemented within six months.
- The BAPT must ensure that interim orders are displayed on register and profile entries, and on outcomes pages. This is to be completed within three months.
- The BAPT must make clear that complainants act as witnesses and are not required to act as a prosecutor during cases that reach the threshold for formal hearings. This is to be implemented within six months.

Recommendations:

- The BAPT should develop appeal or review procedures for interim orders.
- The BAPT should review its complaints materials to ensure that all roles within those processes are clearly defined and demonstrate their separation from other BAPT functions.

Accreditation Panel findings

- 5.1 BAPT's website details how complaints against registrants are managed. The complaints procedure is intended to begin with informal resolution, such as mediation, and progresses to a formal complaint process overseen by the BAPT's Complaints Panel. This Panel assesses, accepts, or rejects complaints based on the evidence provided. Detailed guidelines and forms for this are

accessible at: <https://www.bapt.info/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/BAPT-Professional-Conduct-Procedure-Policy.pdf>.

- 5.2 We considered that the requirement to attempt informal resolution before contacting the BAPT might deter people from raising serious concerns. The Accreditation Panel found that registers should have clear thresholds and criteria for when escalation was necessary, and that these should be reflected in their formal procedures and public guidance. It issued the following Condition accordingly:
- The BAPT must develop clear thresholds and criteria detailed when complaints may be suitable for informal resolution or must be escalated to formal procedures. This is to be implemented within six months.
- 5.3 We did not think it was easy to find information about complaints; complaints information is available from the <https://www.bapt.info/contact/> page but there was no dedicated section. The BAPT made clear that people wishing to raise concerns may contact its offices by phone or email to raise concerns, however we felt the complaints procedure could be made more accessible. We considered how the BAPT could improve communications under Standard 8.
- 5.4 While the BAPT publishes annotations of sanctions on register and profile entries, we considered that it would be beneficial to provide a dedicated webpage outlining disciplinary decisions, including current sanctions and interim orders. This is addressed under Standard 8, regarding the BAPT's overall communications.
- 5.5 During our assessment we did not see evidence that BAPT had processes for the recruitment, training and ongoing monitoring of key decision makers for disciplinary processes. We noted that the BAPT had advised these were in development however required evidence to ensure this standard was met. The Accreditation Panel issued the following Condition accordingly:
- The BAPT must develop processes for the recruitment, training and ongoing monitoring of key decision makers for disciplinary processes, to ensure they may effectively carry out their roles. This is to be implemented within six months.
- 5.6 The BAPT may restrict the practice of registrants if they have serious safety concerns by issuing interim suspensions during complaints processes. We did not see evidence that interim suspensions would be displayed on individual register and directory entries, or on a dedicated 'complaints outcomes' page of the BAPT's website. To ensure that the public is properly informed of interim suspensions, the Accreditation Panel issued the following Condition:
- The BAPT must ensure that interim orders are displayed on register and profile entries, and on outcomes pages. This is to be completed within three months.

- 5.7 We also noted that the BAPT should have processes in place to dispute interim orders or review if complaints processes run for long periods of time, and issued the following Recommendation:
- The BAPT should develop appeal or review procedures for interim orders.
- 5.8 We require Accredited Registers to make clear that the Register assumes responsibility for investigating and prosecuting complaints, with the complainant acting as a witness. They should not be required to prosecute or direct a hearing, as this could deter people from raising concerns or participating in complaints processes. Although we did not see evidence that the BAPT required this of complainants, the Accreditation Panel did not find their position was sufficiently clear and so issued the following Condition:
- The BAPT must make clear that complainants act as witnesses and are not required to act as a prosecutor during cases that reach the threshold for formal hearings. This is to be implemented within six months.
- 5.9 As part of our assessment, we checked whether BAPT Board members were involved within decision making for complaints decisions, which could create a conflict of interest. The BAPT confirmed its Board members are not directly involved in complaints decisions, however a recent complaint had caused it to consider if such involvement would be desirable. We emphasised that it was appropriate to maintain separation between complaints decision-makers and officers responsible for management of membership and the register.
- 5.10 We considered that the BAPT's *Professional Conduct Procedure & Policy*, along with its *How to Complain* guidance referred to roles such as the "Professional Conduct Committee Chair". It was not clear whether this was the subcommittee Chair, or that of a single complaint's Professional Conduct Panel. The Accreditation Panel issued the following Recommendation to address this:
- The BAPT should review its complaints materials to ensure that all roles within those processes are clearly defined and demonstrate their separation from other BAPT functions.
- 5.11 We checked the BAPT's policies for reporting concerns to other relevant agencies. The BAPT advised it was a signatory to the Accredited Registers Information Sharing Protocol and would send outcomes to the other registers accordingly. The BAPT advised it was developing processes for sharing with other bodies such as the police or social services as part of a wider review of its complaints procedures.
- 5.12 The BAPT advised of recent changes to its website and actions underway to fulfil the Conditions. These would be assessed in due course.

Standard 6: Governance

The Accreditation Panel found that Standard Six was met. It issued the following Conditions and Recommendations:

Conditions:

1. BAPT must enhance transparency through the publication of board minutes and related governance information accessible to the public. This should be implemented within six months of the publication of this report.
2. The BAPT should develop an organisational risk register and include regular review of this within its processes. This is to be implemented within six months.

Recommendation:

1. The BAPT should develop and publish clear terms of reference for its board and committees to ensure structured governance practices.

Accreditation Panel findings

- 6.1 The BAPT is managed by its Board of Directors, who meet at least four times a year. Board members are elected or co-opted at the BAPT's Annual General Meeting for a three-year term, with the possibility of serving up to seven years. The Chair serves for three years with eligibility for re-election but not exceeding five consecutive years.
- 6.2 Separation of the management of register, and professional body functions are achieved through the BAPT's subcommittees. Each subcommittee manages an essential function such as training and education, finance and resources, professional practice and complaints.
- 6.3 The BAPT told us they were restructuring their committees. The Panel noted that the current information about the Board and committees found on its website such as at: <https://www.bapt.info/bapt/bapt-formation-and-structure/> was helpful, but that clear information about each group's functions would assist effective governance. The Panel issued the following Recommendation:
 - The BAPT should develop and publish clear terms of reference for its board and committees to ensure structured governance practices.
- 6.4 Our Standards require Accredited Registers to published key governance documents: The BAPT's articles and core policies are available for download from its website. We noted that information such as board papers, minutes, or other documents that could help build confidence in the register were only available within restricted members' sections of the website. To address this, the Accreditation Panel issued the following Condition, noting that emphasises providing information that is in the public interest, and not confidential materials:
 - BAPT must enhance transparency through the publication of board minutes and related governance information accessible to the public. This should be implemented within six months of the publication of this report.
- 6.5 Prior to publication of this report the BAPT informed us that board minutes were now published online at <https://www.bapt.info/bapt/bapt-board-minutes/>.

- 6.6 The BAPT's "How to Complain" document sets out its procedure for raising concerns or complaints about the Accredited Register are in place, advising that it will aims to resolve any issues raised within 28 days. This is supported by its whistleblowing policy which advises how it will consider serious concerns.
- 6.7 Our Standards require Accredited Registers to demonstrate a clear and documented approach to organisational risk management, to address issues that might affect the ongoing operation of the register. It was not clear that the BAPT had this in place, and so the Panel issued the following Condition:
- The BAPT should develop an organisational risk register and include regular review of this within its processes. This is to be implemented within six months.
- 6.8 Prior to publication of this report the BAPT provided its organisational risk register. This will be assessed in due course.

Standard 7: Management of the risks arising from the activities of registrants

The Accreditation Panel found that Standard Seven was met.

Accreditation Panel findings

- 7.1 The BAPT maintains a practitioner risk register, demonstrating awareness of potential risks associated with practitioners.
- 7.2 The BAPT highlighted recent actions to mitigate risks regarding clinical supervision and standards of practice for supervisors.
- 7.3 The BAPT provide clear and accessible information about the limitations and benefits of treatments through the information its website provides about play therapy. It has also recently published new leaflets for distribution.
- 7.4 We noted that BAPT provided information for children as well as parents wishing to learn about play therapy. The information we saw appeared appropriate and did not appear to make inappropriate claims about treatments or outcomes.

Standard 8: Communications and engagement

The Accreditation Panel found that Standard Eight was met. It issued the following Recommendation:

Recommendation:

- The BAPT should consider how it can enhance accessibility by providing, and signposting to key information about its processes.

Accreditation Panel findings

- 8.1 The BAPT's communication channels include the website, journal, social media, and direct communications. They also maintain active engagement with other Accredited Registers and relevant bodies in the field of play therapy: BAPT participates in the Accredited Registers Collaborative, maintains relations with Play Therapy UK, and is a founding member of the International Consortium of Play Therapy Associations community.

- 8.2 We noted that the BAPT's website appeared to be generally clear and accessible, providing direct access to essential information including its practitioner register and directory. Grades of membership are described on the website, which makes clear that only Full members are listed on the Accredited Register.
- 8.3 The BAPT shared with us its Public Engagement Strategy, setting out how it aimed to seek and act on the views of a range of stakeholders including parents and carers.
- 8.4 We considered however that the BAPT could provide more information to facilitate effective use of the register and to promote confidence in the organisation. In previous Standards we noted that, for example: the BAPT could consider what information held in its members-only area could be shared with the public; that complaints outcomes, interim suspensions and other relevant information could be provided on a dedicated webpage; and that access to complaints procedures could be clearly signposted from the BAPT's front page or the header/footer sections of its website. The Accreditation Panel issued the following Recommendation:
- The BAPT should consider how it can enhance accessibility by providing, and signposting to key information about its processes.

Share your experience

- 9.1 We did not receive any responses to our invitation to share experience of the BAPT.

Impact assessment (including Equalities impact)

- 10.1 We carried out an [impact assessment](#) as part of our decision to accredit the BAPT. This impact assessment included an equalities impact assessment as part of the consideration of our duty under the Equality Act 2010.
- 10.2 We acknowledged the BAPT's commitment to inclusivity and diversity. The BAPT has worked to enhance access to play therapy for underrepresented groups and integrated diversity into its training programmes. Initiatives included a 2023 survey and ongoing data collection from 2024 to better understand and address diversity among members. Additionally, the establishment of an Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) subcommittee in 2024 will oversee these efforts. We did not identify negative impacts requiring immediate attention.