

COMMITTEE ALERT, ADVISE, ASSURANCE REPORT TO BOARD

Committee:	Scrutiny Committee
Meeting Date:	1 August 2024
Chair:	Marcus Longley

KEY ITEMS DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING

TO ALERT (alert the Board to any areas of particular importance or urgency)

Issue	Committee Update	Assurance Received	Action	Timescale

ADVISE (advise the Board on any areas of on-going monitoring or any new developments that need to be shared with the Board)				
Issue	Committee Update	Assurance Received	Action	Timescale
Accredited Registers – multiple registers for one occupation	The Committee raised the point of multiple registers for one occupation, seeking assurance on our position.	It has been and remains the PSA's position that we would not restrict accreditation to one register for a specific profession. We require registers to meet the same Standards, which reduces the risk of unwarranted variation.	None.	
Accredited Registers – escalating risk relating to occupations	The Committee sought assurance on the process used to highlight to DHSC where a Standard 1 identifies that the risks of a profession may be high enough to require further work to determine if the current level of assurance is sufficient.	This is an overall judgement on the risks identified through Standard 1 assessments. We are not making a recommendation about the level of assurance required, but are recommending that further work is undertaken to fully understand the risks.	None.	
Performance review – regulator performance	The Committee received updates on regulator performance, including the NMC and HCPC.	The Committee noted the ongoing work in relation to the NMC, and the recent panel decision relating to the HCPC.	None.	

<p>Section 29 case numbers</p>	<p>The Committee sought further information on case numbers, which are slightly lower this year compared to last, including whether this could impact on regulator backlogs.</p>	<p>When comparing case numbers received across the same 12-month period, we have received and reviewed fewer cases in July 2023-July 2024 compared to the previous year. It is difficult to judge at this stage how many cases we will see by the end of the year, however, further work will be done to understand these figures.</p>	<p>Further analysis to be undertaken, and further breakdown of case numbers and analysis will be provided for future Committee meetings.</p>	<p>November 2024.</p>
<p>Section 29 review</p>	<p>The Committee received an update on progress to date on the workstreams of the review.</p>	<p>While some workstreams have been delayed, due to resourcing issues, process changes and improvements have been identified and implemented, alongside further work in other areas, including sharing learning.</p>	<p>Update to be provided to the Board at its September meeting, and further work scheduled.</p>	<p>September 2024.</p>

ASSURE (assure the Board on any areas of assurance that the Committee has received)				
Issue	Committee Update	Assurance Received	Action	Timescale
AR and PR Standards review project	The Committee received an update on the work of the project to date.	The Committee noted the update and work planned.	None.	
Diversity in regulators' Council appointments processes	The Committee approved the development of a blog to explain our appointments function, which will include challenges and progress made in increasing Council diversity.	The Committee was satisfied with the proposal for a blog to explain the PSA's work in this area.	Blog to be produced.	October 2024.