

## Newsletter June 2024

Welcome to our June Newsletter, which gives important information presented to the UKBHC Engagement event in Glasgow on 11/6/2024:

- 1) UKBHC Governance review
- 2) Draft Code of Conduct for response
- 3) Registration categories & Person specs
- 4) Summary of other UKBHC business in 2023/24
- 5) Invitation for Expressions of Interest for Professional Director/Lead Officer roles

### UKBHC Governance review –

The review had been undertaken in recognition that the workload and responsibilities of the Board have increased since it was set up, which has sometimes meant the Board has not been able to keep up with all that is required.

In response to these and other challenges, the Board approved –

**a/** More inclusive language to reflect variety of terminology used across UK

**b/** Widening of Board representation from Chaplaincy bodies/groups

**c/** Authority of the Board is now deemed to be independent of its core groups

**d/** To increase the numbers of nominated Directors, Professional Directors/Lead officers and Lay Directors from 4 each to 6 each

**e/** To increase the domains of accountability and responsibility from 4 to 7, namely –

- Academic standards
- Professional advisors
- Fitness to practice
- Professional registration
- \*\* Communication and engagement
- \*\* PSA registration
- \*\* Governance and risk

\*\* These were agreed as new domains  
It was noted that Lead officers would be required for 5 of these domains.

**f/** Appointment of lead pairings for each domain to add support and ensure more timely and efficient working

### Code of Conduct update –

Those present on 11/6/2024 were given brief opportunity to highlight concerns/issues, etc... for the working group to take on board. It was noted the draft document will be sent out to registrants and other parties for further comments (attached in PDF & Word format).

Please send any responses to –  
Rev Dr Paul Nash before 28<sup>th</sup> June, at  
[professionalconduct.lead@ukbhc.org.uk](mailto:professionalconduct.lead@ukbhc.org.uk)

### Registration categories & Person specs –

A report was given on the already approved registration categories & person specifications. The former have been developed to clarify and widen the routes for registration, including portfolio route. The latter have been developed to include Band 3 – Band 8 Chaplaincy posts. It was noted that each region and employer may need to adapt to their own context.

The issue of endorsement was raised, given the different contexts across UK. It was acknowledged that while work has been done on this to try to find appropriate modal and terminology, it is not yet complete.

### Summary of other UKBHC business in 2023/2024 -

Other areas of progress/challenge/partnership over the past year were noted, including –

- The death of Lead officer for Professional Advisors, Cameron Langlands. Sincere sympathies were offered to his family, friends and colleagues
- Resignations or retirements of previous Chairperson, Administrator, Treasurer and Registrar

## Newsletter June 2024

- Ongoing PSA reaccreditation
- NHS (England) Chaplaincy Guidelines for Managers 2023 were welcomed, and in particular the way in which they strengthen the position of UKBHC as a regulator for Chaplaincy in the UK. This is critical for a number of reasons, but not least because it helps in the journey toward mandatory professional registration for Chaplains.
- Administrative and website issues
- The Board acknowledges its own shortcomings and the impact this may have had on registrants and others. We apologise where we have fallen short of what we aspire to achieve. We are committed to ensuring that the gap between the work of the Board and the experience of registrants is narrowed
- We invite others to partner with us in this journey
- We thank you for your interest, patience and support

### Invitation for Expressions of Interest for Professional Director/Lead Officer roles –

- If you know of anyone who might find these roles interesting and have the requisite skills, knowledge and values please pass this email on
- UKBHC has a number of exciting volunteer opportunities for anyone who can demonstrate commitment to supporting the highest standards of safe and effective Chaplaincy/spiritual care in UK health and social care.
- If you care about the experience of patients, their families or of healthcare staff, these opportunities may be for you
- Healthcare Chaplains promote pastoral, spiritual and religious wellbeing through skilled, compassionate, person-centred

care. This is available to our patients, their families and carers, and to staff, volunteers and students. They enable people to celebrate according to their religion or belief within NHS and other healthcare settings, and support those facing very difficult situations such as the death of a loved one, psychosis, being diagnosed with life-threatening conditions and people who are receiving end of life care, as well as being alongside those who just appreciate having a listening ear or a time to chat

- The Board is seeking expressions of interest for the roles of Lead Officers for -
  - ❖ Professional Registration
  - ❖ Professional Advisors
  - ❖ Communication and Engagement
  - ❖ PSA registration
  - ❖ Governance and Risk
- Applicants may submit expressions of interest for more than one role
- See the attached Expression of Interest for further information
- Please complete and return by 28th June 2024, to the secretary, Rev Derek Johnston, at - [secretary@ukbhc.org.uk](mailto:secretary@ukbhc.org.uk)

### Board meeting; 2024

| Dates                            |
|----------------------------------|
| Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2024 |
| Wed 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2024     |

If you have any stories/reflections that could be shared with wider chaplaincy through future newsletters, please forward them to the secretary.

UKBHC reserves the right to publish or not.

Thank you!

[UK Board of Healthcare Chaplaincy - UKBHC](https://www.ukbhc.org.uk)