Publication of decisions policy

Policy Statement

1. This document sets out UKCP's policy on the publication of decisions made in accordance with UKCP's Complaints and Conduct Process.

2. UKCP exists to promote and maintain the profession of psychotherapy and psychotherapeutic counselling for the public benefit. This includes promoting high standards of education, training and practice. Registrants accept that registration with UKCP means that UKCP can investigate registrants' practice and conduct, through UKCP's Complaints and Conduct Process.

3. UKCP aims to ensure that the public is protected and that public confidence in the profession it regulates is maintained. In order to achieve this UKCP investigates complaints and concerns raised against its registrants under the Complaints and Conduct Process.

4. As part of its commitment to protect the public and ensure public confidence in those it regulates UKCP will publish particulars of any decisions made by an Adjudication Panel, Appeal Panel or Interim Order Panel (where the Interim Order Panel has made an Interim Suspension Order) or any Consensual Disposal decisions. UKCP reserves the right to redact sensitive information in exceptional circumstances regarding the registrant or witnesses to the complaint when it does not interfere with the public interest.

5. In all cases where a decision is redacted, the Chair of the relevant panel should review and agree the proposed redactions before publication. Adjudication Panels are independent so UKCP has no authority to amend or re-draft the determination other than to redact information which may be considered sensitive. Information may be considered sensitive if it refers to material which might lead to the identification of a complainant or vulnerable witness, mental or physical health issues regarding the registrant, or other private information regarding the registrant which UKCP deems is inappropriate to publish.

6. In order to protect confidentiality UKCP does not publish information relating to the health of a registrant. This information is treated as confidential regardless of whether it is heard by an Adjudication Panel, Appeal Panel or Interim Order Panel.

7. UKCP is subject to legislation in relation to information governance including the current legislation relating to data protection.

Key Principles

8. UKCP is committed to transparency and openness in relation to its policies, processes and procedures, and to providing a fair and balanced complaints process. At the same time, it recognises its responsibility to protect the confidentiality of its registrants during an investigation or if it is found that a complaint is not well founded.

9. UKCP seeks to act consistently in the publication of information about the decisions it publishes and will ensure that any disclosure of information is lawful, proportionate, fair and accurate.

Publication of decisions

10. Details of all Consensual Disposal decisions or decisions made by an Adjudication Panel or Appeal Panel in which breaches of UKCP's code of ethics are upheld are published on UKCP's website.

11. Details of decisions made by an Adjudication Panel or Appeal Panel are normally published on the website 28 days after the conclusion of a hearing. If an appeal is lodged by either party within that time frame the decision will not be published until the appeal has been concluded.

12. Where a complaint is dealt with by way of Consensual Disposal, the Consensual Disposal Agreement approved by the Professional Conduct Committee shall be published on the website 7 days after the Registrant and Complainant have been informed that the complaint has been resolved by way of Consensual Disposal.

Interim Suspensions

13. ~~12.~~ If an Interim Suspension order is made, an acknowledgement will be listed on the UKCP website immediately following the decision.

14. ~~13.~~ The listing will remain on the UKCP website until the complaint has been concluded, or the order expires or is ceased by decision of the panel.

15. ~~14.~~ Full details of decisions made by Interim Order Panels are not published. However, UKCP will publish the terms of any order imposed. If the Interim Order is terminated or varied, UKCP will publish the new terms of the Interim Order in the case of variation or remove all reference to the Interim Order in the case of termination of the order, as soon as practically possible.

List of registered psychotherapists and psychotherapeutic counsellors on UKCP's website

16. ~~15.~~ UKCP holds an online register of psychotherapists, psychotherapeutic counsellors, and a specialist register for psychotherapists qualified to work with children and young people. UKCP offers an online Find A Therapist service for people wanting to choose a UKCP registered practitioner. Any decision by an Adjudication Panel, Appeal Panel or Interim Order Panel in which breaches of the UKCP's code of ethics are upheld, or an interim suspension order is made, or where a Consensual Disposal Agreement has been reached will be published on UKCP's website.

    Except for interim suspension order, suspension and termination of UKCP membership decisions (in which cases, the member would be removed from the register and Find A therapist directory), a member's individual register and Find A Therapist record will also be indicated by a marker with links to the details of the decision published in accordance with paragraph 9.

17. ~~16.~~ Any decision by an Adjudication Panel or an Appeal Panel in which breaches of the UKCP's code of ethics are upheld that does not impose a time-limited sanction will be published for a period of twelve months. Time-limited decisions will be published for the duration of the sanction as specified by the panel.

18. Where a complaint is dealt with by way of Consensual Disposal, the Consensual Disposal Agreement shall be published on the website until the Registrant has complied with the terms of the Consensual Disposal Agreement.

19. ~~17.~~ Decisions in which a registrant has been removed from UKCP's Register will remain on UKCP's website for a period of five years from the date the decision takes place.

20. ~~18.~~ Details of any previous decisions that concluded that the Registrant was not suitable to remain on the UKCP register without any restrictions or conditions may be disclosed by UKCP upon request.

Forthcoming hearings Page

21. ~~19.~~ The following information is published:

a. The registrant's name;

b. The town/county where the events that are subject to the allegation took place, or the town/county in which the registrant resides; and

c. Date and venue of the hearing.

22. ~~20.~~ The names of any witnesses will not be published.

23. ~~21.~~ If an application for the hearing to be held in private is granted, UKCP will not publish the location of the hearing

Transcripts

24. ~~22.~~ All hearings are recorded. Written transcripts are generally not produced at the conclusion of a hearing. The parties to a complaint, that is the UKCP (or their representative) and the registrant who is subject to the allegations, can ask for a copy of the recordings made during a hearing and have them transcribed at their own expense.

Other

25. ~~23.~~ UKCP reserves the right to amend or change this policy when it determines it necessary.

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Table Delete	0
Table moves to	0
Table moves from	0
Embedded Graphics (Visio, ChemDraw, Images etc.)	0
Embedded Excel	0
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