

Minutes of Human Givens Institute Board Meeting

Date of Meeting: Wednesday 8 July 2015 (7pm)

Medium: Skype

Present: Julian Penton (Chairing), Don Elwick, Gail Rhodes, Julie Lawrence, Celia Nicholson.

Apologies: Ivan Tyrrell, Joe Griffin, Renee Van der Vloodt, Dr Declan Lyons, Cathriona Edwards

In attendance: Sue Saunders (Registration and Professional Standards Committee) & Ian Thomson (Human Givens Foundation)

1. Minutes & Matters arising:

Celia Nicholson reported that a commission for the new website has been agreed with Jane Tyrrell.

Ian Thomson reported that the RPSC has produced a document outlining indicative sanctions.

Support to HGI members subject to complaints: Julian Penton will shortly be writing to a group of members to form a panel to support members.

2. AGM

It was suggested that a webinar AGM could be held this year – to which members could contribute with questions and comments – with a public meeting AGM next year.

3. Professional Standards Authority Application

In terms of drafting, the Board agreed that all “will” and “should” comments would be changed to “are” or “have been”.

Celia Nicholson queried separation of duties between Board and RPSC on standards. It was agreed that the standards are set, held and reviewed by the HGI Board and policed by the RPSC. The RPSC will advise the HGI Board on changes required to standards and draw the attention of the Oversight Board to any issues which have not been addressed by the HGI Board. In both the RPSC and the HGI Board, public interest has primacy over members’ interests. The Oversight Board will monitor activities of the HGI Board and RPSC, and monitor the relationship of both with the College.

In terms of finances, the document requires declaration of turnover for voluntary registration: this requires clarification, as there is some confusion about allocation of expenditure to College, Publishing and Institute spend. Celia Nicholson is in discussion with Ivan Tyrrell to achieve better separation of finances between parts of the business. The document will need to be adjusted before submission to reflect the full cost of registration. This will be done quickly to avoid delaying submission.

There is a distinction between passing part III as a qualification and inclusion on the register. It is possible for people who have passed part III to be refused inclusion on the register or removed from the register (eg if they are judged unfit for non-professional skills reasons such as prior offending), in which case they cannot practise as a Human Givens therapist.

The Institute should specify a minimum level of professional indemnity cover and include checks in the annual sampling process. The Board decided that the policy should be for insurance with maximum liability of £1m.

Sue will add policy on length of service for Board members and Don's biography.

Ian Thomson and Sue Saunders will send all non-public documentation submitted in support of the application to Board members.

The Board reviewed the draft application and concluded that it is likely to pass, (subject to minor revisions during the process), and should be submitted. Submission deadline is end of July.

Jane Tyrrell is organising communications to members, (with a special newsletter), and will highlight areas where there are new requirements of therapists, eg indemnity levels.

4. Any Other Business

Survey Monkey: a quarter of members have responded to the survey. Replies are consistent: 80-100% are presenting their therapy as Human Givens; 80% advertise as Human Givens; alternative branding is occasionally used eg "psychotherapy"; average sessions worked per week are 1-6 sessions per week; average in a year are 10-250; 61% use Human Givens in other work; over 80% of work time uses Human Givens principles.

5. Date of next meeting

Wednesday September 9, 7:00pm