

BRITISH/ PSYCHOANALYTIC /COUNCIL

Member Institutions role in the implementation of sanctions

About Us

1. The British Psychoanalytic Council (BPC) is the UK's leading professional association and accredited public register for psychoanalytic psychotherapy. The BPC is a voluntary accredited register; registering psychoanalytic psychotherapists and psychodynamic psychotherapists and is accredited by the Professional Standards Authority (PSA).
2. The core functions of the BPC are to:
 - Set and maintain standards of practice and conduct;
 - Maintain a register of qualified psychoanalytic and psychodynamic psychotherapists ('Registrants');
 - Assure the quality of education and training provided to Registrants by their Member Institutions;
 - Require Registrants to keep their skills up to date through continuing professional development;
 - Consider and investigate complaints and concerns of a Fitness to Practise nature raised against Registrants and issue sanctions, where appropriate to protect the public, act in the public interest and uphold the standards of the profession and maintain public confidence in the profession.
3. The BPC's Council of Member Institutions ('MI') agreed to the introduction of a centralised Complaints Procedure in 2007 and conferred the responsibility for considering complaints raised against Registrants to the BPC.

Purpose of this Document

4. The purpose of this document is to provide guidance to MI's regarding their role in the implementation of sanctions imposed by the Fitness to Practise Committee following a Fitness to Practise Hearing.
5. This document may also be of assistance to Registrants, Registrant's legal representatives, Complainants and members of the public wishing to understand further information regarding the BPC's procedures.
6. This document should be read in conjunction with the Fitness to Practise Procedure to provide further information regarding the Fitness to Practise process holistically.

7. The BPC will regularly review this document to ensure it remains consistent with other BPC associated guidance documents.

Sanctions available to the Committee

8. As MI's will already be aware, the Fitness to Practise Committee ('the Committee') have the following sanctions available to them:
 - a. Reprimand;
 - b. Conditions, to be met within a specific time;
 - c. Suspension for up to 12 months;
 - d. Termination of Registration;
9. In addition to the above, and where relevant, the Committee can also direct the following action be taken against a Registrant:
 - a. Removal of the Registrant from the Membership of a committee, sub-committee, working group, party or any other body of the BPC or a BPC MI for a period to be determined by the Committee but for no longer than 3 years.
 - b. Require the Registrant to stop training, teaching, supervising, or carrying out any other activity on behalf of the BPC or the MI for a specific period of time but for no longer than 3 years.

Implementation of Conditions

10. Where the Committee decides to impose conditions against a Registrant, the MI may be required to assist the Registrant to meet these conditions. In particular, where supervision by an independent supervisor is required.
11. In accordance with BPC process, the Chair of Ethics from the Registrant's MI will be informed of the Hearing outcome and where supervision is directed by the Committee, the BPC expects the Registrant to engage with their MI Ethics Chair to arrange a suitable supervisor to conduct supervision for the number of recommended sessions.
12. Once a supervisor has been appointed, the Registrant will notify the BPC of the name of their supervisor and the supervisor's contact details. Where possible, Registrants should not choose a supervisor who they have worked with before.
13. Where the Committee stipulates that written reports are to be provided to the BPC, it is the Registrant's responsibility to provide such reports to the BPC unless the Committee expressly stipulates that the supervisor should provide the reports to the BPC directly.

Supervisors

14. The detailed criterion for choosing supervisors lies with each MI. However, the BPC expects supervisors to be experienced senior Registrants with at least five years'

experience of supervision and to be from the same or a compatible analytic orientation as the Registrant.

15. Supervisors should also be willing to supervise Registrants under sanction from another MI as some of the BPC's MI's are smaller.
16. Each MI should nominate supervisors from their own membership who are willing to undertake supervision of Registrants who are subject to a sanction.

Failure to comply with Conditions

17. Where a Registrant has failed to comply with any stipulated condition, the supervisor should notify the BPC and the Chair of Ethics of the Registrant's MI as soon as possible.

Change of Supervisor

18. Where, for any reason, the supervisor changes, the Registrant should notify the BPC as soon as possible and confirm the name and contact details of their new supervisor. The same criteria for supervisors apply, as detailed in paragraph 14 above.