

## Membership Selection Criteria ACC's Register Advisory Panel

The Association of Christians in Counselling and Linked Professions (ACC) wishes to recruit people who are willing to serve in a voluntary capacity as lay members of the Register Advisory Panel (RAP).

The Register Advisory Panel was set up by ACC in 2014 to help meet the obligations set out by the Professional Standards Authority (PSA) in the Standards for Accredited Registers, published on the PSA's website [https://www.professionalstandards.org.uk/docs/default-source/accredited-registers/standards-for-accredited-registers/standards-for-accredited-registers.pdf?sfvrsn=cc2c7f20\\_4](https://www.professionalstandards.org.uk/docs/default-source/accredited-registers/standards-for-accredited-registers/standards-for-accredited-registers.pdf?sfvrsn=cc2c7f20_4)

ACC determined that the manner in which it could be supported in complying with these standards was to set up an independent panel of individuals with expertise in professional regulation, healthcare, legal matters, patient advocacy and similar relevant knowledge and experience to oversee the governance, design, management and administration of the register of counsellors held by the ACC under the Accredited Registers Programme.

Typically, panel members will have expertise in areas such as professional regulation, healthcare, legal matters, patient and consumer advocacy or similar relevant knowledge and experience.

The ACC is committed to promoting equality of opportunity and treatment and welcomes applicants with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010.

### Selection Criteria for Applicants

M – Mandatory characteristic; D- Desirable characteristic

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|---|---|
| 1. Sympathetic to, knowledgeable about, and supportive of the Christian ethos of ACC as expressed in its Statement of Faith (2014) and/or the statement of Ethics and Practice (2014) found at: <a href="https://www.acc-uk.org/publications/strategic-documents.html">https://www.acc-uk.org/publications/strategic-documents.html</a> | M |
| 2. Committed to upholding the Nolan Principles of Standards in Public Life (1995)*  | M |
| 3. Experience of working within a regulatory framework of governance  | D |
| 4. Experience of client, patient or consumer advocacy   | D |
| 5. Experience /knowledge of mental health and well-being especially as they relate to counselling and psychotherapy   | D |

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|---|---|
| 6. Enthusiasm for the work of ACC and commitment to preparing (for example reading draft policies) for and attending regular RAP meetings in person or via video link | M |
| 7. Willingness to take on actions, relating to the roles and responsibilities of RAP, as appropriate and agreed, and completing them in a timely manner               | M |
| 8. Possessing skills and aptitude for the roles and responsibilities of RAP as laid out in its Terms of Reference   | M |
| 9. Interests that are compatible with the Terms of Reference of RAP and the ethics of ACC   | M |
| 10. Acceptance of the ACC's right to terminate membership of RAP should these criteria not be consistently met and principles and commitments upheld                  |   |

### **The Nolan Principles as defined by Committee on Standards in Public Life, May 1995**

[<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-7-principles-of-public-life/the-7-principles-of-public-life--2>, accessed on 19.01.2018]

#### **1. Selflessness**

Holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest.

#### **2. Integrity**

Holders of public office must avoid placing themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might try inappropriately to influence them in their work. They should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships.

#### **3. Objectivity**

Holders of public office must act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias.

#### **4. Accountability**

Holders of public office are accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this.

#### **5. Openness**

Holders of public office should act and take decisions in an open and transparent manner. Information should not be withheld from the public unless there are clear and lawful reasons for so doing.

#### **6. Honesty**

Holders of public office should be truthful.

#### **7. Leadership**

Holders of public office should exhibit these principles in their own behaviour. They should actively promote and robustly support the principles and be willing to challenge poor behaviour wherever it occurs.

### **Protected Characteristics under the Equality Act 2010**

[<https://www.gov.uk/discrimination-your-rights> accessed on 19.01.2018]

- age
- being or becoming a transsexual person
- being married or in a civil partnership
- being pregnant or on maternity leave
- disability
- race including colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin
- religion, belief or lack of religion/belief
- sex
- sexual orientation

This document is to be reviewed annually and again prior to any recruitment process.

Last Updated – April 2023