



REQUEST FOR YOUR VIEWS

You are aware, of course, of the unusual circumstances facing the GCC and the profession in respect of the 500+ complaints that we've received. I am writing to you now to seek your views on a request for a further change to the Registration Rules that the GCC made earlier this month to the Privy Council Office.

Rule 8(1)(4) states that chiropractors who are subject to investigation or any proceedings before the Professional Conduct Committee are not required to apply for annual retention of registration. This means that those registrants (unless they are subject to a suspension order) can continue to practise as chiropractors without any need to pay the £1,000 annual fee – even if the case is not fully concluded for several years. Effectively, therefore, registrants who don't have complaints against them are subsidising those who do.

Normally, the current legislation has meant a reduction in GCC income each year of approximately £50,000. You will appreciate that the impact this year will be at least ten times higher.

This is why we have asked the Privy Council Office to remove rule 8(1)(4). Our rationale is that it is in the interest of the public and the reputation of the profession for the GCC to continue to deal with complaints in a timely and effective manner, while maintaining progress on all our other activities. These include

- our planned UK-wide briefing events for the profession in the Autumn
- implementation of electronic retention of registration

As a matter of urgency I would be grateful to know whether you have any fundamental objection to the removal of rule 8(1)(4) of the Registration Rules.

Margaret Coats
Chief Executive & Registrar