

Report to Council for November 2021

Ethics and Professional Standards Committee

Complaints

Thanks go to Helen Packard for her ongoing work in the role of Complaints Convenor. There is one current active complaint. Two other complaints were received by the Convenor but were referred to the HDC as being a more appropriate channel given their nature.

New Committee Members

Since the last council meeting in July, two new members, John Savage and Stephanie Ford, have joined the two existing EPSC members, Helen Packard and Helen Florence. As chair, I wish to thank all of them for their invaluable expertise and continuing service to NZAP.

Queries from Members

Several questions from members have been fielded recently with a common theme being requests for therapist notes from clients in both individual and couple work contexts. An article for the NZAP newsletter which summaries the legal and ethical issues raised would likely be useful to members.

Another common theme for questions and discussion on Connect has been the Ministry of Health vaccine mandate and its impact on psychotherapy practitioners, both registered and non-registered. An article for the NZAP newsletter which explores the historical context and ethical issues of vaccine mandates is currently being drafted.

EPSC Review Update

The full committee has had a Zoom meeting to continue working through the recommendations of the EPSC review. There was a hiatus in monthly meetings while the above complaint was in progress to avoid overburdening the committee. We are hoping to have a further meeting in December and return to our roughly monthly schedule.

Ending of the NZAP Complaints Process

Language regarding the ending of the NZAP Complaints process and new Complaints Liaison role has been provided to the NZAP executive for sign-off.

Paul Wilson, EPSC Chair