



## **STATEMENT**

**10 January 2008**  
**For immediate use**

### **GCC welcomes publication of CHRE's guidance on sexual boundaries between healthcare professionals and patients**

The General Chiropractic Council (GCC) welcomes the publication of guidance on sexual boundaries published by the Council for Healthcare Regulatory Excellence (CHRE).

Peter Dixon, GCC Chairman, said today: "The relationship between patient and health professional is not an equal one and it is essential that patients' trust is not abused by any healthcare professional".

"The GCC actively participated in the development of the boundaries guidance, recognising that its consolidation of current regulatory guidance will help patients and healthcare professionals to recognise how boundary abuses occur, that they are unacceptable and must not be tolerated".

Peter Dixon continued: "The GCC plans to promote and use the boundaries guidance and will send it to every chiropractor, chiropractic degree providers, and other stakeholders. Further, the GCC's Council members and all those who sit on the GCC's regulatory committees will receive training on how to apply the boundaries guidance when fulfilling their statutory responsibilities".

**-Ends-**

### **Notes to Editors**

**If you have any questions please contact Margaret Coats, GCC Chief Executive and Registrar or Philippa Barton-Hanson, Executive Officer (Communications) on telephone: 020 7713 5155 fax: 020 7713 5844 or e-mail: [m.coats@gcc-uk.org](mailto:m.coats@gcc-uk.org) or [p.barton-hanson@gcc-uk.org](mailto:p.barton-hanson@gcc-uk.org).**

To access CHRE's sexual boundaries guidelines, published on 10 January 2008, click on the following links:

[Clear sexual boundaries between healthcare professionals and patients: responsibilities of healthcare professionals](#)

[Learning about sexual boundaries between healthcare professionals and patients: a report on education and training](#)

[Clear sexual boundaries between healthcare professionals and patients: guidance for fitness to practice panels](#)

**About the GCC**

The General Chiropractic Council (GCC) is a UK-wide statutory health regulator set up to protect the public. It sets standards for chiropractors' skills, conduct and health and will take action against chiropractors who fail to meet them.

Chiropractors who are on the Register have met legal criteria for registration and it is a criminal offence for anyone to describe themselves as a chiropractor if they are not registered with the GCC.

Chiropractors are competent to diagnose and treat disorders of the musculoskeletal system and the effects of these disorders on the function of the nervous system and general health.

**A searchable list of chiropractors is available on [www.gcc-uk.org](http://www.gcc-uk.org)**