



# Snapshot

Annual review of performance

Regulator reviewed: **General Chiropractic Council**

## Key facts & figures:

- Regulates the practice of **chiropractors** in the **United Kingdom**
- **3,242** professionals on register (as at 30/09/2016) and recognises and assures the quality of **five degree programmes** at **three educational institutions**
- **£750** fee for initial registration; the fee for retention is **£800**. (The GCC offers a reduced fee of **£100** for those not intending to practise.)



## Standards of good regulation

### Core functions

Annual performance review 2016

### Met

(number of Standards)

Guidance & Standards

4/4

Education & Training

4/4

Registration

6/6

Fitness to Practise

9/10

## Focus on: **Activities and actions demonstrating how the GCC is meeting the Standards**

The GCC has met 23 out of 24 of our Standards of Good Regulation and this represents a notable improvement in the GCC's performance since last year.

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### **GUIDANCE AND STANDARDS: STAKEHOLDERS' VIEWS/EXPERIENCES ARE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT**

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The GCC ran a public consultation on the guidance produced to support its revised Code. There were 241 responses from chiropractors, other healthcare professionals and members of the public. Over 80 per cent of those responding said that they found the guidance to be helpful, useful and easy to understand.

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### **EDUCATION AND TRAINING: QUALITY-ASSURANCE PROCESS IS FOCUSED ON ENSURING STUDENTS MEET THE REGULATOR'S REGISTRATION STANDARDS**

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The GCC's Education Committee holds regular meetings with the educational institutions to discuss their annual monitoring reports and share good practice. The Education Committee has also been involved in discussions with other UK/international chiropractic accreditation agencies to develop new approval processes and policies.

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### **REGISTRATION: ONLY THOSE WHO MEET THE REGULATOR'S REQUIREMENTS ARE REGISTERED**

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We considered the GCC's own review of its registration processes and concluded that the GCC was correctly following its procedures when deciding whether a practitioner can join its register. We also found that information about registrants can be easily accessed on the GCC's register, including whether there are any restrictions to their practice.

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### **FITNESS TO PRACTISE: CASES ARE PRIORITISED/DEALT WITH AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE**

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During the 2015/16 performance review, the GCC has improved its risk assessment of complaints and has, in general, improved its timeliness when handling complaints. It has, for example, reduced the time taken from the receipt of a complaint to the final fitness to practise hearing. We will continue to monitor performance in this area.

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### **FITNESS TO PRACTISE: THE PROCESS IS FOCUSED ON PUBLIC PROTECTION**

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This Standard was not met in the last performance review because of concerns with compliance with the GCC's fitness to practise processes. For this performance review, the GCC told us about actions taken to address our concerns and how its procedures have improved. Through our review, we noted improvements to the GCC's investigation processes and guidance, as well as the quality-assurance of decisions.

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### **FITNESS TO PRACTISE: ALL PARTIES ARE KEPT UPDATED ON PROGRESS**

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The GCC has not met this Standard this year. Our review of 24 fitness to practise cases found shortcomings in the way the GCC acknowledges complaints, updates parties and provides accurate information about the status of cases. Whilst we recognise that the GCC has taken steps to improve its performance in this area, we have concluded that it has fallen short of meeting the Standard.

The full report is available from our website. It covers the GCC's performance from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016.

Find out more about our performance reviews at:  
[www.professionalstandards.org.uk/performancereviews](http://www.professionalstandards.org.uk/performancereviews)