



Latest information on Regulation of Acupuncture 04.07.2008

On 16th June 2008, the Department of Health Steering Group on the Regulation of Acupuncture, Herbal Medicine and Traditional Chinese Medicine published its long-awaited report in which it recommended the statutory regulation of acupuncture through the Health Professions Council as soon as is practicable.

The British Acupuncture Council has made major contributions to the regulatory process for well over a decade. It welcomes the report's recommendations that in the interest of public health and patient safety all practitioners will be required to attain high standards of competence. It is also delighted that the Report identifies the BAcC as one of the groups already achieving this level of excellence.

The Minister of State for Health Services, Ben Bradshaw, has been presented with the Report and responded with a call for further public consultation on the matter of regulation before acting on the Report's recommendations.

Mike O'Farrell, CEO of the British Acupuncture Council, said; "The British Acupuncture Council respects the minister's wish for a second consultation. Getting it absolutely right is as important as simply getting it done.

"While that process gets underway, we shall continue our current tasks of increasing awareness of the acupuncture profession, developing research activity and standards of safe practice, and maintaining our proud record of innovation in the field of educational development, all of which are the core of the British Acupuncture Council's achievement."



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