

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

TERMS OF REFERENCE

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PURPOSE

The purpose of the committee is to ensure COSRT's professional standards are fit for purpose and properly applied. The aim is to maintain 'Best Practice' as the benchmark for COSRT and the Registers it maintains. This committee reports to the Board of Trustees in an advisory capacity on standards for individual membership, accredited training, and associated policies and practices. It is also able to provide advice to COSRT senior management.

SCOPE

The Committee:

- Maintains COSRT's Risk Registers related to the professions it oversees.
- Advises and contributes to work relating to regulation.
- Keeps abreast of current thinking, standards, legal obligations, and general levels of professional and training standards.
- Builds and maintains links to other organisations to promote knowledge exchange and mutual acceptance of standards across the sector.
- Is available to give non-binding advice on the any review of professional standards or related policies and procedures – including those related to individual membership and training accreditation - subject to request from either the Board of Trustees or the CEO.
- Is available to give non-binding advice on course accreditation or membership application processes subject to request from either the Board of Trustees or the CEO.
- Reviews professional and training standards annually and propose adjustments to staff and Trustees.

AUTHORITY

The committee is advisory. It makes reports to the Board and support/advise the CEO. This committee does not have any financial authority.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership comprises a minimum of:

- One layperson
- Three COSRT Members

All members are agreed by the board. Appointments last two years and are renewable once subject to Board agreement.

MEETING ARRANGEMENTS

The committee aims to meet quarterly and will meet no less than three times per year.

REPORTING

The committee reports to the COSRT Board of Trustees.

RESOURCES

The committee has administration support available to it via an ex-officio COSRT staff member or other staff member.

REVIEW

The terms of reference of this committee will be reviewed annually and will be a standing agenda item on the first Board meeting of the new year.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

- Understanding of the regulatory context for therapy including statutory regulatory bodies.
- An awareness of Psychosexual and Relationship Therapies, and the risks associated with them as well as mitigating factors and actions.
- An understanding of good practice for individual and training standards.

- Awareness of how therapy training is delivered in the UK and the shape of the sector including key organisations.
- Experience of setting and/or monitoring individual standards.
- Experience of setting, implementing and/or monitoring standards for training.
- No adverse professional conduct judgements recorded.
- Free from any conflicts of interest that cannot be mitigated.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Keep up to date with all relevant areas relating to areas of expertise and how these impact COSRT and the wider professions it serves.
- Be a source of advice and guidance to trustees and staff on matters relating to your expertise and ensure that agreed delegations are adhered to across the organisation.
- To actively take part in meetings and lead or participate in other committees to help develop the profession.
- To be an advocate for COSRT and Psychosexual and Relationship Therapies.



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