

UK Careers Profession Alliance

'One Voice Making an Impact'

Briefing Note 4: January 2012

'A profession that inspires confidence in the public, dedicated to delivering high quality career development activities and services that help individuals to achieve their full potential and support economic productivity while ensuring equality of opportunity for all.'

The purpose of the UK Careers Profession Alliance is to raise professional standards and assure quality and public confidence in career development activities and services for young people and adults across the UK

Update from the Executive

This briefing note summarises the key messages from the meeting of the CPA Executive on 10 January:

1. It was agreed that by January 2013 we will be a single professional body and that during the 2012 transition period we will operate as a federation. The transition body is likely to be a continuation of the CPA but with new protocols and roles and responsibilities for members of the Executive.
2. The Career Development Institute (CDI) was agreed as the working title for the unified organisation.
3. The expectation is that at the point when the new body is established, the existing associations will cease to operate, and their functions and resources will transfer to the CDI. However, it may be that some associations may wish to carry out some functions outside of the scope of the CDI.
4. Chartered status is still on the agenda but is not a priority.
5. A number of principles for the new body were agreed at the meeting, which include:
 - the new body will be a professional membership organisation
 - a simple constitution will be developed which reflects best practice of other professional membership organisations
 - there will be at least five professional sub groups reflecting the functions and client groups of the existing membership of the CPA organisations
 - the business of the CDI will be led and managed by a small board of directors, of whom half will be elected
 - an elected council will manage the professional issues relating to members of the CDI and

of the organisation itself

A task group representative of each member associate of the CPA and led by Stephen McNair, will work on the detail of the CDI, its constitution and governance. The CPA will also agree a new remit and processes to ensure that it is fit for purpose to oversee the transition to the CDI. Boards of each member association will be consulted on the model for the CDI.

6. In order to set up robust transition arrangements for operation of the CPA as we move towards establishment of the CDI, Trevor Mason will lead a task group which will agree clear roles and responsibilities for the CPA Executive and financial arrangements for the next 12 months as well as procedures for managing the register of practitioners from April 2012 until the end of the year. This group will submit a paper covering these issues for discussion at the next meeting.
7. Work on the professional register and career progression framework is continuing under the management of Ruth Miller. A consultation document has been circulated to the Executive and there will also be a workshop for practitioners on 8 February in Sheffield which it is expected to involve 35 participants. The next step for the team is to consider how the CPD offer of the associations will enable practitioners to progress towards registration. To facilitate this process, CPD data for each member of the CPA will need to be collated by 14 February.

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