February 2025 Regulation Board Meeting Summary

The Regulation Board met virtually. The CEO provided an update on various meetings with Professional Bodies. A new Aural Care Community of Interest has been launched. The CEO met with the First Minister and Cabinet Secretary in Scotland considering the development of the NHS in Scotland, discussion included both how Healthcare Science can help with innovation and also the regulation of Healthcare Scientists. It was announced that the AHCS has a new President, who will be invited to join the next Regulation Board meeting virtually.

The Registrar's report was discussed, and it was noted that the deadline for submission for the PSA Annual Review was 28th of February. The Board were assured that work is underway to complete this on time. Other updates included an update on the number of registrants in private practise. CPD Audits are still underway, with Medical Illustrators completed, HCS Practitioners in progress and Clinical Research Practitioners due to begin in March 2025. The Board were informed that the agreed changes to the Career Breaks and Return to Practise Policy have been implemented. A separate Audiology register has been launched, which includes the ability to record sub areas of practise e.g. adult and paediatric and ABR training. Good Scientific Practise has been updated and implemented, accompanied by a communications campaign. There are 5 current Fitness to Practise cases with 5 cases closed since October 2024 and 1 new case since then.

The Board considered two proposed updates to policies, the first regarding registrants and the Accepted Outcomes policy, the other regarding applicants to the Register and the Appeal Rules. Reports were received from the Education and Training Committee, including an update on equivalence assessors and the new the new STP Template for applications, due to be launched 14th of February. The risk register was reviewed, noting ongoing work regarding risks posed by those registrants in private practice.

The Board reviewed the proposed recruitment pack for an associate board member. This was agreed.