

CHARITY FUNDING REQUEST

The Health Professions Council and the Shadow Health Professions Council have received a number of requests for financial assistance, which are of a charitable nature.

To date the requests have been for a reduction or waiving of annual registration fees and/or assessment fees. They are typically related to non-UK nationals from economically underdeveloped countries wishing to work in the UK. The requests have been received from Education and Training Institutes and NHS Trusts who are seeking to employ the potential registrants.

In addition, although none have been received to date, it is anticipated that HPC may receive requests for donations to good causes related to the professions that HPC regulates or for funding of students attending courses that lead to HPC registration.

It is assumed that the number and types of requests may increase over the coming years as the level of awareness of HPC increases.

Before 1st April 2002 the Council for Professions Supplementary to Medicine rejected all similar requests as it viewed that its monies could only be used in relation to its statutory activities.

As of today the HPC has no Policy for dealing with these types of requests. If the HPC decides that in the future it will make charitable donations then at a minimum the Policy would need to cover the following issues:

- The criteria for accepting or rejecting requests for financial assistance
- Status of overseas requests
- The need to set a financial limit for any individual request
- The procedure for approving payments
- How to publicise the policy
- Annual budget

The Council is requested to ask the Finance and Resources Committee to:

Draw up a Policy for dealing with requests for financial assistance that are of a charitable nature.

Present their recommendations to the Council on 18th July.