

GUILDFORD CENTRE FOR PSYCHOTHERAPY

CONSTITUTION

1. NAME

- 1.1. The organisation shall be known as the Guildford Centre for Psychotherapy, hereinafter known as the GCP.

2. OBJECTIVES

- 2.1. The GCP seeks to promote and provide a service of registered psychoanalytic psychotherapists for those seeking psychotherapeutic help in the Southern Counties.
- 2.2. The GCP seeks to promote and provide a structure for the professional development of post qualifying thought and practice for its own members. For these members it also seeks to provide guidance and support.
- 2.3. The GCP seeks to provide for the wider public (either in the helping professions or those generally interested) in developing awareness and understanding of the human mind and psyche.

3. MEMBERSHIP

- 3.1. Applications for membership will be considered from psychoanalytically and psychodynamically orientated psychotherapists registered with either the UKCP or the BCP.
- 3.2. Psychotherapists who work psychoanalytically/psychodynamically but do not fulfil our current criteria of membership of UKCP or BCP will be considered on an individual basis.
- 3.3. All membership applications must be brought to the Business Meeting, which will decide after reviewing the information obtained from the CVs and from interviews with the prospective member whether or not to admit to membership.
- 3.4. Retired members will be entitled to limited membership of the GCP. Although they may have relinquished membership of the UKCP or the BCP they can attend GCP Discussions and Internal Seminars. They will receive Agendas and Minutes but cannot attend Business Meetings.
- 3.5. Members are expected to participate actively in the work of GCP.

4. CODE OF ETHICS

- 4.1. All members must agree to abide by the GCP Code of Ethics, which delineates our required attitudes to patients and colleagues and other essential matters, including equal opportunities policy, malpractice insurance, and procedures in the event of an alleged breach of the Code.

5. SUBSCRIPTIONS

- 5.1. All subscriptions to be determined at the AGM, based on the advice of the Treasurer. Subscriptions will be reviewed annually, determined on the advice of the Treasurer and subject to the agreement of the Membership.
- 5.2. Subscriptions are non-returnable.

6. THE BUSINESS MEETING

- 6.1. The Business Meeting, which all members are encouraged and expected to attend, shall deal with all and every matter of policy and its execution in relation to GCP objectives and standards of practice.
- 6.2. Business Meetings are to take place as required by the business to be transacted.
- 6.3. A quorum shall consist of not less than one-third of the members, excluding Retired Members.
- 6.4. A Chair and a Treasurer shall be appointed to ensure the smooth running of the GCP, in accordance with the wishes of the GCP as expressed in the Business Meeting, and decided if necessary by a vote. It may appoint other post-holders as it sees fit.
- 6.5. The Chair will be responsible for presiding at the Business Meetings of the GCP, from the time of appointment to the next business meeting.
- 6.6. A member will be responsible for the recording of minutes relating to the Business Meetings.
- 6.7. The Treasurer will be responsible for the collection of all monies and shall keep records of accounts as required by the Business Meeting and the Inland Revenue. The Treasurer will ensure that the appropriate paperwork will be submitted to the nominated accountant, who will in turn submit it to the Inland Revenue.
- 6.8. A Special Business Meeting may be called in an emergency. If less than 5 members or 30% of the membership, whichever is greater, attend such a Special Business Meeting decisions will need ratification at another Business Meeting.
- 6.9. The budget, subscription rates and appointment of post-holders shall be considered at the regular Business Meetings, as the need arises.
- 6.10. Any 5 members may request a Business Meeting, but generally it will be the function of the Chairman to do this.
- 6.11. Failure of a member to receive notice of a Business Meeting will not invalidate the proceedings of the meeting, provided there is a quorum at the meeting.

7. WITHDRAWAL OF MEMBERSHIP

- 7.1. Membership of the GCP may be withdrawn from any member whose behaviour is judged by the Business Meeting to be detrimental to the activities or reputation of the GCP, after due consideration and as laid out in the Code of Ethics.
- 7.2. A member under threat of withdrawal of membership is entitled to representation.

8. LIABILITY

8.1. Financial or legal liability incurred in the rightful exercise of GCP duties shall be the responsibility of the membership as a whole.

9. ALTERATION TO THE CONSTITUTION

9.1. The constitution may be altered at a Business Meeting or Special Business Meeting and will need a two thirds majority of members present.

10. TERMINATION

10.1. The GCP shall not terminate its activities except by a resolution of a Special Business Meeting convened for the purpose.

10.2. If, upon termination of its activities, and after payment of any debts and liabilities, the Guildford Centre for Psychotherapy has funds remaining, such funds should not be distributed among its members.

Such funds should be given or transferred to a psychotherapy organisation comparable to the Guildford Centre for Psychotherapy, and one which has some charitable function. The choice of such an organisation shall be determined by Members of the Centre at the time of the dissolution of the organisation.

11. POWER OF DECISION

11.1. Any matter not provided for in this constitution, or any question of the interpretation of it, shall be dealt with by the Business Meeting whose decision shall be final.

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