



The British Association  
for the  
Person-Centred Approach

Marc Seale  
Chief Executive  
Health Professions Council  
Park House,  
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Park Road,  
London, SE11 4BU

Dear Marc Seale,

As you will already be aware, the HPC has been criticised for failing to include representation from the breadth of the professional field of counselling and psychotherapy and to respect the difference and diversity of stakeholders, allowing the Professional Liaison Group (PLG) to be dominated by a small group of people who are unrepresentative of the field (The Maresfield Report on the Regulation of Psychotherapy in the UK, Oct 2009). The British Association for the Person-Centred Approach (BAPCA) shares this concern and wishes to make representation to the HPC on behalf of the person-centred community of counsellors and psychotherapists. There are considerable numbers of person-centred counsellors and psychotherapists working in the field; in charities, hospices, bereavement services, many voluntary organisations, industry, health, education and private practice, all of whom have been significantly under-represented in the PLG.

We understood that following public consultation the HPC had accepted that the PLG was not representative of the field and that a new, more representative, PLG would be convened. However, at a debate held in Brighton in April 2010, Di Waller said that this would not happen but that other stakeholder groups would be invited to contribute to the work of the existing PLG.

We would appreciate further information about how the HPC plans to ensure that the whole field has some representation and how and when other stakeholders might have an opportunity to contribute to the work of the PLG.

We respectfully request that efforts are made to include BAPCA in any further attempts the HPC may make to include stakeholders more representative of the field.

Yours sincerely

Annie Thompson – Convenor  
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For and on behalf of BAPCA

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BAPCA is registered with the Charity Commission as Charity No 1044077

Member of the Network of European Associations for Person-Centered and Experiential Psychotherapy and Counseling (NEAPCEPC)  
Member of the WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR PERSON-CENTERED AND EXPERIENTIAL PSYCHOTHERAPY AND COUNSELING

