HCPC Consultation on changes to fees

14 December 2022

# About us

We’re RCOT, the Royal College of Occupational Therapists. We’ve championed the profession and the people behind it for over 80 years; and today, we are thriving with over 35,000 members. Then and now, we’re here to help achieve life-changing breakthroughs for our members, for the people they support and for society as a whole.

# Our response

The Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC) are proposing a 20% increase in registrant fees starting in July 2023. This would impact occupational therapists from August 2023 when the next renewal period for the profession begins.

HCPC have said that their proposals will ensure their future financial sustainability and are underpinned by careful financial analysis of what is necessary for them to continue to meet its statutory objective and protect the public.

## Many RCOT members have contacted us to express their opposition to the proposed fees increase. Although we understand some of the rationale for why HCPC are proposing 20%, we strongly oppose this double the rate of inflation change.

Occupational therapists’ pay has not increased in line with inflation and an increase of this size will be severely detrimental to our professional workforce. It will do nothing to attract people to occupational therapy or help to retain people within the profession, which is already on the national shortage list. Alongside other Allied Health Professions (AHPs), occupational therapy is experiencing high demand, challenging staffing levels and working conditions, and this will be another pressure for AHPs who are already being squeezed by the cost of living crisis. We urge the HCPC to think again and to consult further with the professional bodies, laying out proposals with what they can and cannot deliver against a range of costing options.

## Contact

For further information on this submission, please contact:

Anne Keen

Royal College of Occupational Therapists

020 3141 4628

[anne.keen@rcot.co.uk](mailto:anne.keen@rcot.co.uk)