

To Whom It May Concern,

I write to you on behalf of the APS College of Health Psychologists and wish to inform you that the college supports the current accreditation processes and supports the continued functioning of APAC.

Regarding the following question:

Proposed decision of the National Board based on a preliminary review of current arrangements including analysis of risks, benefits and costs

Based on its preliminary review, the preliminary view of the National Board is to continue the current arrangement of exercising accreditation functions through APAC for a period of one year to allow APAC's sole member (the Australian Psychological Society) to make the recommended changes to APAC's Constitution to address the governance and independence issues. The Board would look favourably on extending the accreditation functions through APAC for longer than one year should changes to the constitution sufficiently support independent decision making.

The above question is difficult to give a single answer to as it is a double barrelled question. On the one hand, we support the ongoing functioning of APAC. On the other hand we do not see a strong need to change the governance or structure of APAC. We have always found APAC to be independent in its decision making, and have found APAC to always be adhering to the highest ethical and professional standards and always having the interests of the discipline and public at heart. We have found their processes extremely helpful in maximising the quality of the health psychology courses in Australia. As such our strong preference would be for a continuation of the current governance and processes of APAC in accrediting our health psychology courses in Australia.

National Course Approvals and Dual Accreditation
APS College of Health Psychologists
Dr Esben Strodl
