



Consultation Document

**Consultation two - proposed new continuing
competence programme for osteopaths**

16 October – 23 November 2020

Introduction

1. The Osteopathic Council of New Zealand (Council) is required by the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 to protect the health and safety of the public by ensuring that osteopaths are fit and competent to practise their profession.
2. One of the ways that Council does this is by setting requirements for osteopaths to maintain their competence through continuing professional development (CPD). Council acknowledges that there are multiple definitions of what constitutes CPD; however, for the purposes of this consultation, Council will refer to all continuing competence activities as CPD.
3. Earlier in 2020 - and following on from work in 2019 on continuing competence, Council conducted a high-level consultation with the osteopathic profession seeking input into the design of an updated continuing competence programme (CCP). As a result of the feedback obtained from that consultation, Council agreed that the re-designed CCP would:
 - Support osteopaths to obtain recognition for relevant practice-based CPD (with appropriate documentation);
 - Support and encourage osteopaths to engage in learning and reflection that will enhance their practice;
 - Improve learning flexibility for osteopaths by changing from an annual cycle requiring 25 points/hours per year to 50 points per two-year cycle, with a minimum of 10 points in each year of the cycle.
4. Council also agreed that guidance should be provided to assist osteopaths in undertaking quality CPD activities that would improve practice.

Current consultation

5. Council has now designed a new CCP framework that it believes meets these objectives. It now seeks the input of the profession on the proposed CCP framework and guidance document.

How to have your say

6. Please provide feedback by completing the online questionnaire, which you can access [here](#).
7. Consultation will close at noon on 20 November 2020. All submissions received by the due date will be considered by Council.