

A Federal Approach to the Voluntary Self-Regulation of Complementary Healthcare



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The Federal Approach

- What is a Federal Regulator?
- What are the benefits?
- What structure is being proposed?
- What work is outstanding?
- What about professional bodies?





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The Federal Approach

A single regulator embracing a number
of complementary healthcare
professions





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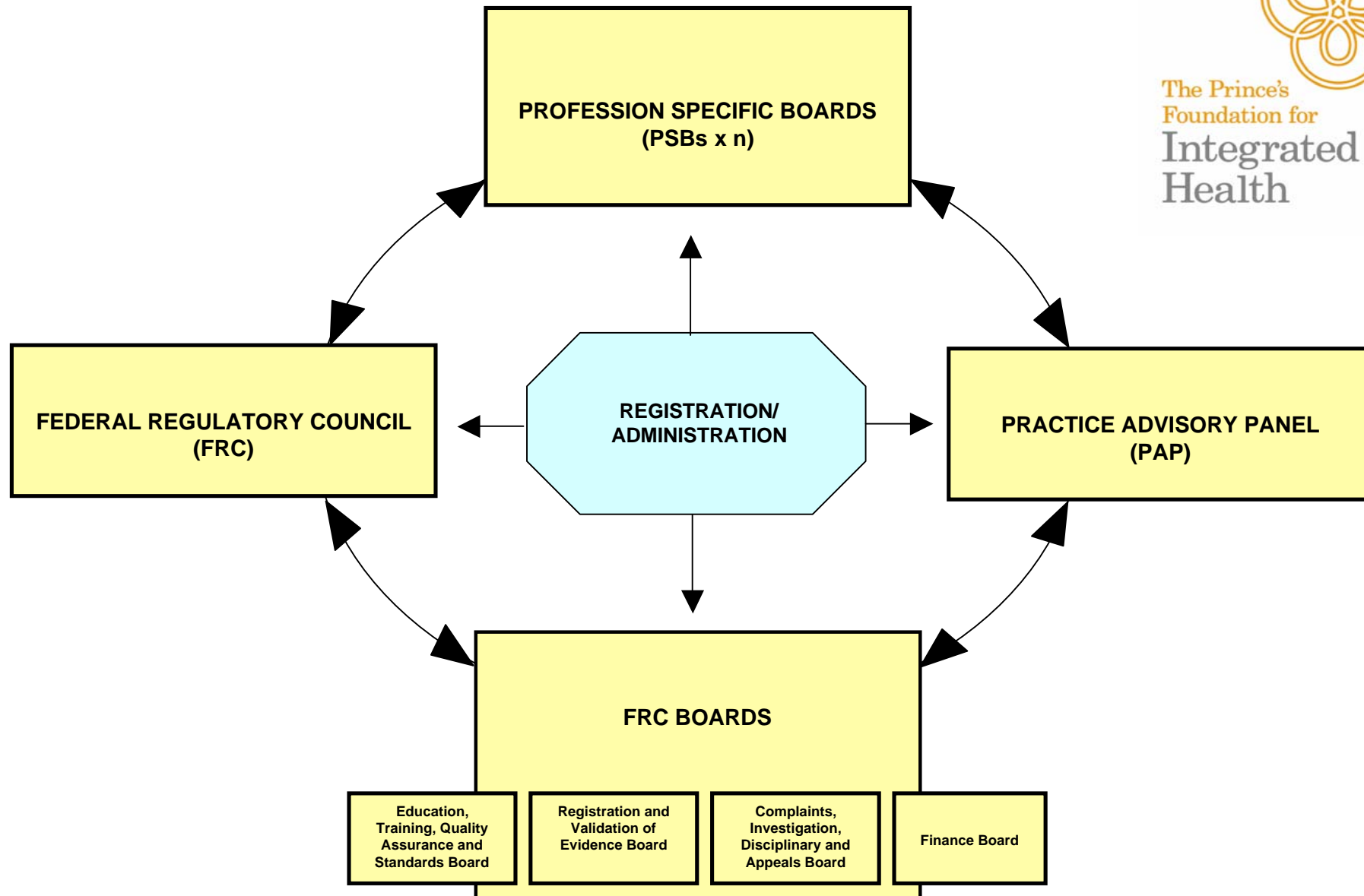
The Federal Approach

- A single point of contact for the public.
- Economies of scale, with potential to keep costs to practitioners down.
- Rationalisation of standards, but allowing for a range of approaches.
- Can accommodate multi-disciplinary practitioners.
- More weight in negotiations with other bodies.





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Federal Regulator

- Regulatory council
- Functional boards
- Profession Specific Boards
- Practice Advisory Panel





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Federal Regulatory Council

- Chair plus eight members
- All lay people
- All appointed via an independent appointments process
- Training to be provided
- Three year term of office
- No more than two consecutive terms





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Functional Boards

- Chair selected from federal regulatory council
- Six other lay people appointed via an independent appointments process
- Two practitioners co-opted as required
- Training to be provided
- Three year term of office
- No more than two consecutive terms





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Functional Boards

- Education, Training, Quality Assurance & Standards to be permanent
- Others have permanent chair but are constituted when required:
 - ❖ Complaints/Fitness to Practise/Appeals
 - ❖ Registration & Validation of Evidence
 - ❖ Finance





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Profession Specific Boards

- One for each complementary healthcare profession being regulated
- Lay chair selected from Education & Training Board
- Four practitioners selected against set criteria:
 - three nominated by the professional bodies
 - one appointed independently
- Three year term of office
- No more than two consecutive terms
- Power to co-opt
- Set up stakeholder groups as necessary





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In addition...

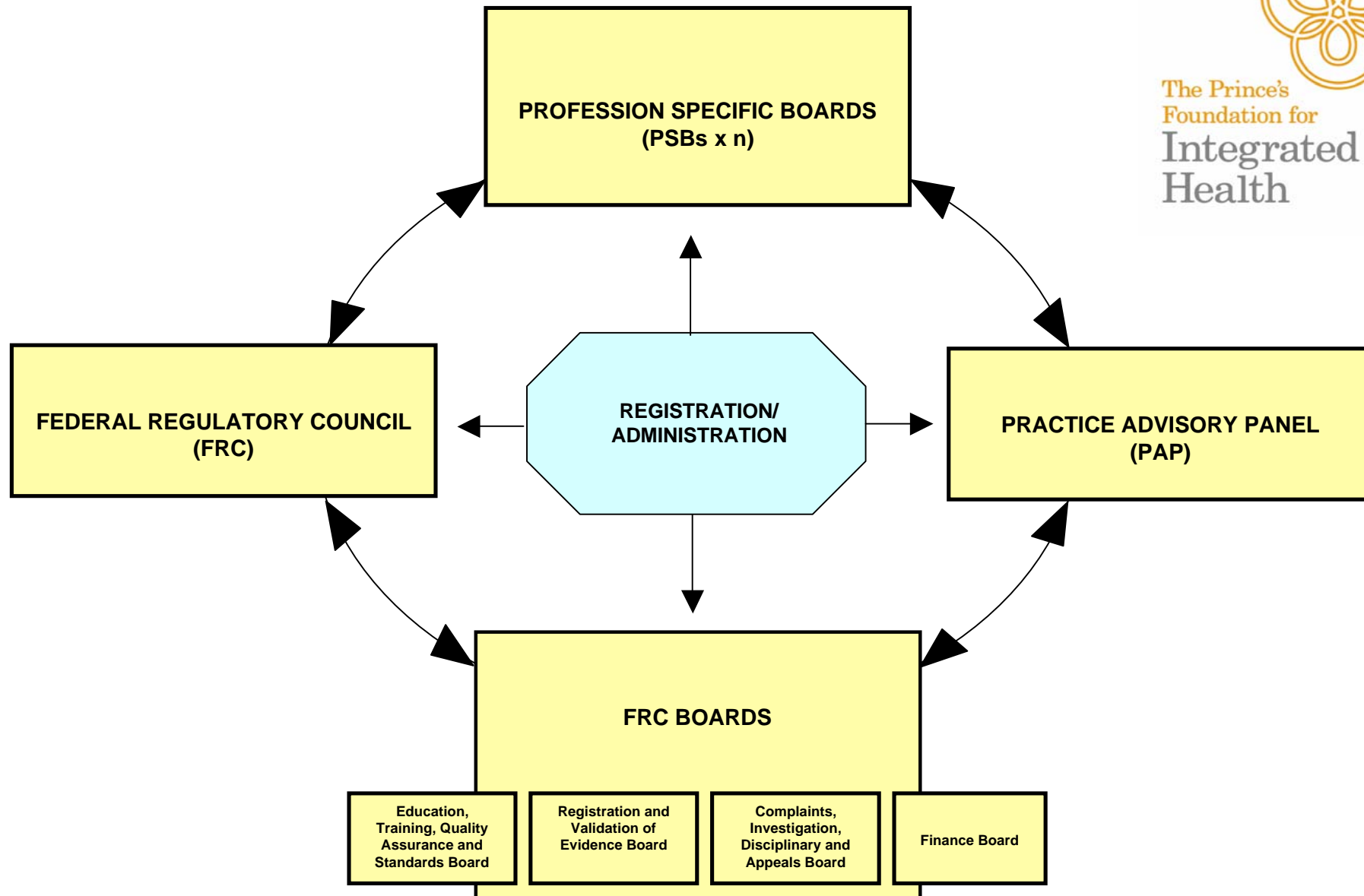
Practice Advisory Panel

- Made up of one practitioner from each practice, selected by the PSBs
- Meets with the FRC and has three seats at every meeting
- Regulatory council required to take account of views expressed by the PAP





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Accountability

- All actions of the Federal Regulator to be subject to independent external audit.
- Regulator is not only independent in its actions but is seen to be independent.
- Regulator is also transparent, accountable, ethical, dispassionate and just.





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Department of Health

“We welcome aspects of the FWG's proposals such as clarity between the respective roles of the regulator (protecting the public) and the professional associations (promoting the profession and promulgating and maintaining high standards of education and practice); lay chairs of Council/committees; and an appropriate structure that puts the interests of the patient and the regulatory, rather than representative, function at its core.”





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DH Support

- Immediate to assist with setting up infrastructure
- Funding for first year





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What remains to be done?

- Regulation working groups to set register entry criteria
- Agreement on accreditation and APEL/Grand parenting
- Finalise arbitration procedure
- Finalise Codes of Conduct and Ethics
- Develop standing orders and working practices
- Agreed roles and responsibilities to be signed-off





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Timescale

- First meeting of Shadow FRC – January 17
- DH funding provided – 2 January
- Final FWG sign-off – completed by end January
- Regulatory infrastructure to be put in place – January to March
- Launch event – February
- Establish initial PSBs – February to March
- Register to go live – April



Shadow FRC

Andy Burman
Angela Deacon
Kay Dixon
Maggie Dunn
Jenny Gordon
Gillie Jordan
Anne Sultoon
Dimitrios Varsamis
Maggy Wallace



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Regulation – the benefits

- **Public:** access to safe, competent practitioners with a single point of contact for information or complaints.
- **Practitioners:** an independent benchmark of professional competence.
- **Profession:** willingness to sign up to robust voluntary self-regulation demonstrates maturity.
- **Professional bodies:** can focus on their members and developing the profession.





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Interaction with the professions

- Professional bodies to be encouraged to set up profession specific forums.
- Forums provide a vehicle for dialogue with the federal regulator.
- Proposed changes to register entry requirements to be subject to consultation with professional bodies.
- Regulation should be professionally informed but transparently independent.





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In conclusion...

Complementary healthcare will be enhanced by robust regulation.

By working in partnership, regulator and professional bodies can promote good practice and support practitioners while safeguarding the interests of the public.

