



## The COSCA Register of Counsellors and Psychotherapists

COSCA (Counselling & Psychotherapy in Scotland) is Scotland's professional body for counselling and psychotherapy [www.cosca.org.uk](http://www.cosca.org.uk)

COSCA holds a Register of Counsellors and Psychotherapists. The primary purpose of the Register is to protect the public when accessing counselling and psychotherapy.

The COSCA Registrar is Brian Magee [brian@cosca.org.uk](mailto:brian@cosca.org.uk)

The COSCA Register is accredited by the Professional Standards Authority under its accredited registers programme. The Authority sets standards for organisations holding registers for people in unregulated health and care occupations and accredits those organisations that meet its standards. All Accredited Registers can be accessed through the Professional Standards Authority's website - available by clicking on the Accredited Register Logo on this site or by [www.professionalstandards.org.uk/accredited-registers](http://www.professionalstandards.org.uk/accredited-registers)

All Registrants on the COSCA Register are on a register accredited by the Authority. COSCA's Register, being accredited under the above programme, offers enhanced protection to anyone looking for counselling and psychotherapy services.

Registrants need to meet COSCA's standards for entry onto the Register in relation to: education and training, counselling and psychotherapy practice, supervision and continuing professional development. Only Registrants can make use of the PSA Accredited Register logo and other benefits of PSA Accreditation.

COSCA registers individuals who have met its standards. Successful applicants in the following categories of membership are eligible to entry on the COSCA Register of Counsellors and Psychotherapists:

**COSCA Accredited Member:** awarded accreditation by COSCA

**UK Body Accredited Member:** awarded accreditation by another UK professional body and met COSCA's accreditation criteria

**Practitioner Member:** minimum of 300 hours of training and 2 years post training supervised counselling practice and continuing professional development

**Counsellor Member:** minimum of 300 hours of training and entitled to practice independently and/or within an agency that provides counselling/psychotherapy.

**Counsellor Member (Organisations):** minimum of 150 hours of endorsed training and entitled to practice within an organisational member of COSCA but are not eligible to practise independently as a counsellor.

Details of the standards for the above registration categories are in our Membership Information leaflet [www.cosca.org.uk](http://www.cosca.org.uk) - Membership

The following categories of COSCA Individual Membership are not eligible for entry on the COSCA Register of Counsellors and Psychotherapists:

**Student Member**

**Counselling Skills Member**

**Associate Member**

**Career Break:**

Registrants can apply for a career break from their practice as a counsellor or psychotherapist. Registrants on a career break may still be involved in the counselling field. Registrants on career breaks are identified as such in their profile on the COSCA Register of Counsellors and Psychotherapists.

**Additional Information:**

1. **Education and Training of Registrants - [www.cosca.org.uk](http://www.cosca.org.uk) - COSCA Register**

2. **Complaints - Information on the following can be found on [www.cosca.org.uk](http://www.cosca.org.uk) Complaints:**

2.1 COSCA Complaints Procedure

2.2 Complaints Procedure FAQ's

2.3 COSCA's Member Organisations and How to Raise a Complaint

2.4 Infogram on How to Make a Complaint to COSCA (Page 2 of Complaints Procedure)

3. **Registrants' Profiles - Areas of Interest**

In the Registrant's profile section of the Register, there is a listing: 'areas of interest'. Entries under 'areas of interest' reflect Registrants' training and experience. Registrants are required to review the entries under 'areas of interest' on their profile and notify COSCA of any amendments required. Please note that Registrants who are listed under 'generic' can work with clients with a variety of needs, even though the Registrants are not listed in a particular area of interest.

4. **Registrants' Profiles - Location Maps**

On the Profile page of each Registrant there is a 'location map' button which accesses Google Maps. If the Registrant has voluntarily provided COSCA with his or her post code, then the above button can be used to locate the address of the Registrant.

## 5. Sanctions:

5.1 Applying of Sanctions (Section 6 of Complaints Procedure - [www.cosca.org.uk](http://www.cosca.org.uk) - Complaints)

5.2 Sanctions applied against registrants are listed in our [Sanction Notices](#). They are also shown on the Register within the profile of each Registrant.

## 6. Statutory and Healthcare Professional Bodies Register - For informing choices about COSCA Registrants [www.cosca.org.uk](http://www.cosca.org.uk) - COSCA Register.

## 7. COSCA's Client Network

Explains how clients and members of the public to be involved in COSCA's work. See details on how to join on [www.cosca.org.uk](http://www.cosca.org.uk) - Counsellors