

Hong Kong Psychological Society

29 March 2025

Statement of Hong Kong Psychological Society

By resolution of the Council of the Hong Kong Psychological Society Ltd ("the Society") on 26 March 2025, the Society has decided to publish the identity of any member . ex-member disciplined misconduct under professional the Society's **By-Laws** for its website on https://www.hkps.org.hk/en/disciplinary_action/ on 31 March 2025 at noon. This decision reflects our unwavering commitment to upholding high professional standards among our members. By doing so, we aim to foster trust and ensure that all our members provide ethical and professional services to the public. Furthermore, this initiative seeks to minimize the risk of negative impacts on the public caused by malpractice, underscoring our dedication to the community's well-being.

Such disciplinary actions have been established by the Society for many years to deter professional misconduct by members and ex-members, while keeping the public informed of substantiated cases of misconduct. Despite our efforts to protect the public using these measures, the Society encountered legal challenges in their implementation in recent years (Please refer to HKPS's statement on 26 March 2025). The Council has carefully reviewed these concerns and resolved to maintain its stance firmly. The cases involved serious violations of professional ethical standards, and concealing the disciplinary outcomes could undermine the public's right to know and the safety of psychological services.

In response to recent public and media inquiries regarding complaint procedures, the Society clarifies that we adhere strictly to procedural fairness in all investigations involving member complaints, ensuring the protection of the rights and interests of both complainants and respondents. To maintain evidentiary integrity, we encourage all parties to provide contemporaneous written documentation (e.g., emails, signed agreements, or clinical records) where feasible, as certain types of evidence may not be considered admissible in disciplinary proceedings. These protocols are designed to ensure a fair and respectful investigative process, in alignment with our commitment to professional integrity and public accountability.

Regarding the recent case that has received media attention, the Society formally received a relevant legal document on 28 March 2025. As this case is now subject to active legal proceedings, the Society must withhold details until the legal complication has been cleared. Following this, the matter will be addressed appropriately. We acknowledge the public's concern and are committed to providing timely updates while ensuring procedural fairness throughout the process.

The Society remains committed to its mission of upholding the highest standards of ethical practice among its members. We encourage employers and service users to verify the membership status and disciplinary history of relevant individuals with the Society prior to engaging psychological service providers. In addition, we continue to advocate for public education on ethical psychological services and urge the Government to initiate statutory registration of psychologists and regulation of psychological practices. These efforts are vital to ensuring the public is fully protected under the law and fostering trust in psychology as a respected and credible profession.

Council of the Hong Kong Psychological Society