

Dear ABP members,

Do you want organisational leaders to seek out you, your skills and your services more? We do (too)! That's why the ABP is committed to being the home and voice of business psychology. We want Corporates and other organisations to value ABP members. To recruit ABP Certified Business Psychologists, to commission ABP members, ultimately to seek your advice and support. This is already happening of course, and we would like it to happen more. To do this, we need to further build our awareness and credibility.

Hence, the need for our **Membership & Post-Nominal Upgrade**

We received a strong response to our survey and we are listening. We are pleased to say the majority of you feel we're on the right track. 79% of you said you are supportive of, and aligned with, this initiative, 15% said 'not yet' and only 6% of you said 'no'.

The purpose of this update is to draw conclusions from the survey and outline changes we are making to our proposal based on the feedback from members. If you have any comments related to these new proposals, please send them to admin@theabp.org.uk with 'Further Consultation Feedback' in the subject line. All background information related to this initiative can be found here - <https://theabp.org.uk/membership-categories-and-post-nominals/>

Our Strategy

This initiative forms part of the ABP's long-term strategy to truly become the home and voice of business psychology. We start with University Course Accreditation and encouraging students to see the ABP as their professional home - the Certification provides that. We offer ongoing professional development. We offer Corporate Membership, our route to engage organisations that value the work of Business Psychologists. We offer meaning, awareness and credibility behind the words Business Psychologist. In supporting this initiative, you are supporting not just the profession but the professionalisation of 'Business Psychology'.

High level survey summary

1. Broadly, there is a good base of support from those who responded to the survey. As mentioned above, 79% of respondents said they were supportive of this initiative. Equally, over 70% said they agreed to our proposal to remove post-nominals simply for being a member of the ABP. 74% like our proposal for changes to Membership Categories and Post-nominals and 26% had alternative suggestions (see below).
2. The use of the word 'senior' in Senior Business Psychologist was felt to have unhelpful connotations by some.
3. Highly experienced Principal Practitioners who have attained professional qualifications such as BPS Chartership feel that the auto-transition to the CertBP doesn't acknowledge their previous professional awards well enough.
4. There were several alternative suggestions for post-nominals which have lead us to reconsider our proposal

5. There were some comments about the cost of transition, specifically in relation to Practitioner members who would like to apply for the Certified Business Psychologist level and Principal Practitioners who would like to apply for Certified Senior Business Psychologist

Recommendations made to the ABP Board for approval based on the survey results

1. Change Senior Business Psychologist to Principal Business Psychologist
2. Post-nominals as follows: Certified Business Psychologist (CBP), Certified Principal Business Psychologist (CPBP), Fellow of the ABP (FABP)
3. Have a clear and full set of membership categories with definitions on the website – General Member (no post-nominals), Student Member (no post-nominals), Certified Business Psychologist (CBP), Certified Principal Business Psychologist (CPBP), Fellow of the ABP (FABP), Honorary Member (HMABP)
4. Auto-transition Chartered Occupational Psychologists (or equivalent) who are currently PPABP to CPBP (i.e. the second level)
5. Have a 6-month window from launch, during which 'PABP can apply for CBP' and 'PPABP can apply for CPBP' for £150. Does not apply to Chartered Occupational Psychologists (or equivalent) – see point 4.

The Board voted in agreement to these recommendations on the 27th July 2020.

Next steps

1. We would like to offer a chance for members to give any final comments/feedback to these proposed changes to the transition by 31st August 2020 – please email admin@theabp.org.uk with 'Further Consultation Feedback' in the subject line. We will consider any further feedback carefully in Early September.
2. The ABP will be working on a full transition and communication plan to be pre-launched at the AGM and officially launched at the ABP 2020 Conference.
3. We will then prepare communications to go out to each member group with transition notification and process/steps to complete (if any)

Thank you for your feedback



Steve Apps

ABP Board Member

PS: If you would like to see the results in full, please email admin@theabp.org.uk with 'Consultation Survey Request' in the subject line and we will send you the full breakdown of answers, including anonymised comments.