



College of Operating Department Practitioners

Strategy 2028

Introduction

The College is the recognised professional body for Operating Department Practitioners (ODPs). The College was founded in 1945 and was originally launched as The Association of Operating Theatre Technicians. As the ODP role evolved, our name has changed to reflect the developing profession and in 2007 we became known as the College of Operating Department Practitioners (CODP). You can read more about the history of the CODP here <https://www.unison.org.uk/content/uploads/2021/11/History-of-CODP-2021.pdf>

In 2006 the College's [and its predecessor organisations] assets were bought out of administration by Care Connect Learning (CCL), UNISON's member learning organisation. This was essential to ensure the financial viability and therefore the continued operation of the College. While being part of a large, established organisation has enabled several successes for the College, there have also been some limitations. For example, the ability to respond in an agile manner to external funding opportunities. Furthermore, some ODPs have expressed a desire for an independent College with its own governance arrangements to operate a separate membership which is no longer contingent on trade union membership.

CODP Strategy 2028

This CODP 'Strategy 2028' has been developed to set out the vision for the College over the next 5 years. It sets out the intention to find a way to transition to an independent organisation. A consultation with ODPs will help the College examine the feasibility of various options.

Vision and Values of the College

Our aims are:

- To be the recognised professional body managed by ODPs, for ODPs
- To represent the profession at a national and international level; for example, through each of the UK devolved nations' government department and arms-length bodies and professional regulator HCPC

Setting Standards, Education and Promoting the Development of the Profession

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- To hold the educational curriculum for the profession and be the recognised authority for the professional education
- To drive research to support the development of the profession and contribute to specific the body of knowledge
- To drive CODP members' professional development through a career framework and a robust Continuous Professional Development (CPD) offer
- To promote best clinical practice for patients and services
- To offer professional/clinical advice to members, including on an individual basis

We will do this by:

- Building an inclusive organisation that celebrates diversity, and values difference
- Having clear and transparent governance arrangements for an elected Council with a clear succession plan
- Retaining professional autonomy irrespective of any external affiliations
- Developing a sustainable and financially viable operating model
- Offering membership to all ODPs regardless of trade union affiliation
- Seeking opportunities of external funding to deliver projects on behalf of ODPs

Organisational Models

To deliver this vision, we need a suitable organisational model. Through the early part of 2022, the College Professional Council considered a range of options, which we would like to consult ODPs about.

The options are ranked here in order of preference

1. Standalone independent organisation
2. Function within other organisation or professional body
3. Merger with another organisation or as umbrella org
4. Wind up CODP

Each option has advantages and disadvantages. For example, to set up as a standalone independent organisation will require some form of income from membership to run. Other options may involve lower financial risk but may lead to a less independent College.

We want to choose the option that is right for ODPs now, and for the future.



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How do we get there?

The table below sets out a number of Key Objectives to establishing the future College.

Timeframe	Key Objectives
By December 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish an updated Professional Council with some current 'caretaker' members and some new members.• Established a financially viable model to enable the ongoing operation of the College [potential external organisation recruited for administrative function]• Established new College website with transfer of materials from current website.• Membership fees and offer established ready to commence recruitment in January 2024.• Membership offers defined and marketing materials developed.• Transfer of the College of Operating Department Practitioners Limited from Unison to CODP.
By December 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two AGMs and first elections for Professional Council members completed.• Pre-registration curriculum review completed with updated curriculum launch.• Financial 'break-even' position achieved.• Membership offers to be developed and enhanced.• Have appointed a Chief Executive Officer.
By December 2028	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The majority of Professional Council members will be elected to allow provision for continuity if required.• Delivery of financial surplus which can be reinvested in the growth of the offer to members.• Commenced the Royal charter application process with the intention of achieving Royal College status.• On-line Journal, four publications per year.