

HCPC major change process report

Education provider	University of Cumbria
Name of programme(s)	BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science - South Central Ambulance Service (SCAS), Work based learning BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science - Isle of Wight (IoW), University of Cumbria, WBL (Work based learning) BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science - London Ambulance Service (LAS), Work based learning BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science - South Western Ambulance Service (SWAS), Work based learning BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science - South East Coast Ambulance Service (SECAMB), Work based learning BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science - North West Ambulance Service (NWAS), Flexible BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science - East of England Ambulance Service (EEAS), Work based learning
Date submission received	04 January 2021
Case reference	CAS-16769-S4M1D8

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Executive Summary

We are the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC), a regulator set up to protect the public. We set standards for education and training, professional knowledge and skills, conduct, performance and ethics; keep a register of professionals who meet those standards; approve programmes which professionals must complete before they can register with us; and take action when professionals on our Register do not meet our standards.

The following is a report on the major change process undertaken by the HCPC to ensure that programmes detailed in this report meet our standards of education and training (referred to through this report as 'our standards'). The report details the process itself, the evidence considered, and recommendations made regarding programme approval.

Section 1: Our regulatory approach

Our standards

We approve programmes that meet our education standards, which ensure individuals that complete the programmes meet proficiency standards. The proficiency standards set out what a registrant should know, understand and be able to do when they complete their education and training. The education standards are outcome focused, enabling education providers to deliver programmes in different ways, as long as individuals who complete the programme meet the relevant proficiency standards.

Programmes are normally [approved on an open-ended basis](#), subject to satisfactory engagement with our monitoring processes. Programmes we have approved are listed [on our website](#).

How we make our decisions

We make independent evidence based decisions about programme approval. For all assessments, we ensure that we have profession specific input in our decision making. In order to do this, we appoint [partner visitors](#) to undertake assessment of evidence presented through our processes. The visitors make recommendations to the Education and Training Committee (ETC).

The ETC make decisions about the approval and ongoing approval of programmes. In order to do this, they consider recommendations detailed in process report. The Committee meets in public on a regular basis and their decisions are available to view [on our website](#).

HCPC panel

We always appoint at least one partner visitor from the profession (inclusive of modality and / or entitlement, where applicable) with which the assessment is concerned. We also ensure that visitors are supported in their assessment by a member of the HCPC executive team. Details of the HCPC panel for this assessment are as follows:

Glyn Harding	Paramedic
Angela Duxbury	Radiographer - Therapeutic radiographer
Niall Gooch	HCPC executive

Section 2: Programme details

Programme name	BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science - South Central Ambulance Service (SCAS)
Mode of study	WBL (Work based learning)
Profession	Paramedic
First intake	01 October 2020
Maximum learner cohort	Up to 41
Intakes per year	2
Assessment reference	MC04782

Programme name	BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science - Isle of Wight (IoW)
Mode of study	WBL (Work based learning)
Profession	Paramedic
First intake	01 October 2020
Maximum learner cohort	Up to 41
Intakes per year	2
Assessment reference	MC04783

Programme name	BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science - London Ambulance Service (LAS)
Mode of study	WBL (Work based learning)
Profession	Paramedic
First intake	01 October 2020
Maximum learner cohort	Up to 40
Intakes per year	3
Assessment reference	MC04784

Programme name	BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science - South Western Ambulance Service (SWAS)
Mode of study	WBL (Work based learning)
Profession	Paramedic
First intake	01 October 2020
Maximum learner cohort	Up to 40
Intakes per year	3
Assessment reference	MC04785

Programme name	BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science - South East Coast Ambulance Service (SECAMB)
Mode of study	WBL (Work based learning)
Profession	Paramedic
First intake	01 February 2021
Maximum learner cohort	Up to 40
Intakes per year	2
Assessment reference	MC04786

Programme name	BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science - North West Ambulance Service (NWS)
Mode of study	FLX (Flexible)
Profession	Paramedic
First intake	01 October 2020
Maximum learner cohort	Up to 40
Intakes per year	3
Assessment reference	MC04787

Programme name	BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science - East of England Ambulance Service (EEAS)
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Mode of study	WBL (Work based learning)
Profession	Paramedic
First intake	
Maximum learner cohort	Up to 30
Intakes per year	3
Assessment reference	MC04852

We undertook this assessment to consider whether the programme continues to meet our standards, following changes reported to us via the major change process. The following is an overview of the changes from the information received via this process.

The education provider told us that another ambulance service – the East of England Ambulance Service – would be running the programme.

It should be noted that although each of the programmes listed above is identical, we have recorded them separately to ensure that we can deal with the education provider's provision at an appropriate level of detail.

Section 3: Requirements to commence assessment

In order for us to progress with approval and monitoring assessments, we require certain evidence and information from education providers. The following is a list of evidence that we asked for through this process, and whether that evidence was provided. Education providers are also given the opportunity to include any further supporting evidence as part of their submission. Without a sufficient level of evidence, we need to consider whether we can proceed with the assessment. In this case, we decided that we were able to undertake our assessment with the evidence provided.

Required documentation	Submitted
Major change notification form	Yes
Completed major change standards mapping	Yes

Section 4: Outcome from first review

In considering the evidence provided by the education provider as part of the initial submission, the visitors were not satisfied that there was sufficient evidence that our standards continued to be met at this time, and therefore require further evidence as noted below.

Further evidence required

In order to determine whether the standards continue to be met, the visitors require further evidence for the following standards for the reasons noted below.

We expect education providers to review the issues identified in this report, decide on any changes that they wish to make to programme(s), and then provide any further evidence to demonstrate how they meet the standards.

4.1 The learning outcomes must ensure that learners meet the standards of proficiency for the relevant part of the Register.

Reason: With regard to the addition of the East of England Ambulance Service (EEAS), the visitors were aware that this was a new route and location for an existing programme. They understood therefore that most aspects of the programme did not need to be reviewed through this major change process. However, they considered that given that the new route would involve new clinical learning environments, to fully understand how learners would be enabled to meet the standards of proficiency they would need to see a mapping exercise for the standards of proficiency. At present it was not clear to them how the education provider would ensure that the knowledge, skills and experiences set out in the standards of proficiency are met through learning and assessment on the new route.

Suggested evidence: A mapping exercise to show that the learning outcomes that will be used in the programme in EEAS, to ensure that learners meet the standards of proficiency, will be the same as those used in the same programme in other locations.

Section 5: Visitors' recommendation

Considering the education provider's response to the request for further evidence set out in section 4, the visitors are satisfied that there is sufficient evidence that the standards continue to be met and recommend that the programme(s) remain approved.

This report, including the recommendation of the visitors, will be considered at the 16 March 2021 meeting of the ETC. Following this meeting, this report should be read alongside the ETC's decision notice, which are available [on our website](#).