

THE HEALTH PROFESSIONS COUNCIL

Chief Executive and Registrar: Mr Marc Seale

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MINUTES of the eleventh meeting of the Approvals Panel held on **Tuesday 5 December 2006** at Park House, 184 Kennington Park Road, London, SE11 4BU.

PRESENT: Ms G Pearson (Chairman)
 Ms H Davis
 Ms E Thornton

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr C Bendall, Secretary to the Panel
 Mr G Bolster, Education Officer
 Ms A Creighton, Education Manager
 Mr C Hipkins, Education Officer
 Mr G Ross-Sampson, Director of Operations

Item 1.06/118 APPOINTMENT OF PANEL CHAIRMAN

1.1 The Panel agreed that Ms Pearson should act as Chairman for the meeting.

Item 2.06/119 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2.1 The Panel approved the agenda.

Item 3.06/120 MINUTES OF THE APPROVALS PANEL HELD ON 2 NOVEMBER 2006

3.1 It was agreed that the minutes of the tenth meeting of the Approvals Panel should be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Item 4.06/121 MATTERS ARISING

- 4.1 The Panel received a paper to note from the Executive.
- 4.2 The Panel noted that the action points arising from the tenth meeting of the Panel had been dealt with.

Item 5.06/122 VISITORS' REPORTS

5.1 The Panel received a paper for discussion/approval from the Executive.

- 5.2 The Panel discussed the report on the Postgraduate Diploma programme in Speech and Language Therapy at Canterbury Christ Church University and the University of Greenwich. The Panel noted that the report included a condition about the wording of information given to prospective students and another condition about revision of documentation and the memorandum of agreement to reflect the agreed policy on accreditation of prior learning. Although some members of the Panel initially felt that these points would have been more appropriate as recommendations, the Panel agreed that they should remain as conditions in the light of the reasons given. The Panel also noted that a programme leader from the Speech and Language Therapy part of the Register had not yet been recruited, but the report had made a recommendation on this point instead of imposing a condition.
- 5.3 The Panel discussed the report on the MSc Physiotherapy (Pre-registration) programme at Manchester Metropolitan University. The Panel noted that the report included a condition that the education provider should provide a new audit tool for assessing practice placement providers, particularly their equal opportunities and anti-discrimination policies. Some members of the Panel felt that this condition was unnecessary, but noted that the education provider had met all the conditions.
- 5.4 The Panel noted that the report on the MSc Physiotherapy programme also included a recommendation that the education provider should seek to implement its inter-professional learning strategy as soon as possible.
- 5.5 The Panel agreed to accept the Visitors' Reports for the following programmes, including the conditions recommended by the Visitors:

Education Provider	Programme Name	Delivery mode
Canterbury Christ Church University & University of Greenwich	Postgraduate Diploma in Speech & Language Therapy	Full-time
Coventry University	Non Medical Prescribing	Full-time/ Part-time
Manchester Metropolitan University	MSc Physiotherapy (Pre-registration)	Full-time
University of Ulster	BSc Hons Dietetics Postgraduate Diploma Dietetics MSc Dietetics	Full-time Full-time Full-time

Item 6.06/123 PROGRAMME APPROVAL

- 6.1 The Panel received a paper for discussion/approval from the Executive.
- 6.2 The Panel noted that the Foundation Degree programme in Pre-Hospital, Unscheduled and Emergency Care at the University of Worcester was in

the process of meeting its conditions and could not yet be considered for approval.

- 6.3 The Panel noted that the paper referred to a part-time delivery mode for the BSc (Hons) Applied Biomedical Science programme at Nottingham Trent University. The Panel noted that this was an error and that approval was only being sought for a full-time mode.
- 6.4 The Panel agreed that the following programmes should be approved, as the Visitors were satisfied that the conditions in the Visitors' reports had been met and the programmes therefore met the Standards of Education and Training (SETs):

Education Provider	Programme Name	Delivery mode
Coventry University	Certificate in Non-medical Prescribing	Full-time & Part-time
University of Greenwich (Partnership with London Ambulance Service)	Foundation Degree in Paramedic Science	Mixed
University of London Goldsmiths College	MA Art Psychotherapy	Full-time/ Part-time
University of Lincoln	BSc (Hons) Applied Biomedical Science	Part-time
Manchester Metropolitan University	MSc Physiotherapy (Pre-registration)	Full-time
Nottingham Trent University	BSc (Hons) Applied Biomedical Science	Full-time
University of Ulster	BSc Hons Dietetics Postgraduate Diploma Dietetics MSc Dietetics	Full-time Full-time Full-time

Action: AC (by 31 December 2006)

Item 7.06/124 MAJOR/MINOR CHANGES

- 7.1 The Panel received a paper for discussion/approval from the Executive.
- 7.2 The Panel noted that the paper summarised changes to approved programmes, which had been considered by the Executive and/or Visitors, in line with the major and minor changes process. The Executive and/or Visitors were satisfied that the changes were minor and that the programmes continued to meet the SETs.
- 7.3 The Panel agreed that the following programmes had undergone minor change and that the programmes continued to meet the SETs:

Education Provider	Programme Name	Summary of Changes
University of Bradford	BSc(Hons) Diagnostic Radiography	Change to two modules in the final year of programme to incorporate a Department of Health pilot project to acquire ultrasound competencies.
University of Leeds	BSc(Hons) Radiography (Diagnostic)	Change to two modules in the final year of programme to incorporate a Department of Health pilot project to acquire ultrasound competencies.
University of Liverpool	BSc(Hons) Occupational Therapy	Change to credit rating of modules to integrate practice education elements.
University of Central Lancashire	BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy (FT)	Change of assessment methods in three modules.
Leeds Metropolitan University	BSc (Hons) Dietetics	Change of credit rating and structure of a number of modules

Action: AC (by 31 December 2006)

Item 8.06/125 MAJOR/MINOR CHANGES: 2

- 8.1 The Panel received a paper for discussion/approval from the Executive.
- 8.2 The Panel noted that the paper summarised changes to approved programmes, which had been considered by the Executive and/or Visitors, in line with the major and minor changes process. The Executive and/or Visitors were satisfied that although the changes were major, the programmes continued to meet the SETs and there was no requirement for an approvals visit.
- 8.3 The Panel agreed that the following programmes had undergone major change and that the programmes continued to meet the SETs:

Education Provider	Programme Name	Summary of Changes
University of Portsmouth	BSc (Hons) Therapeutic Radiography BSc(Hons) Diagnostic Radiography Diploma Higher Education ODP FdSc Paramedic Science	Relocation of staff and teaching accommodation (School of Health Sciences and Social Work)

Action: AC (by 31 December 2006)

Item 9.06/126 MAJOR/MINOR CHANGES: 3

- 9.1 The Panel received a paper for discussion/approval from the Executive.
- 9.2 The Panel noted that the paper summarised changes to approved programmes, which had been considered by the Executive and/or Visitors, in line with the major and minor changes process. The Executive and/or Visitors had recommended that, as the programmes were due to undergo a major change, an approvals visit was required to assess whether the programmes continued to meet the SETs.
- 9.3 The Panel agreed that the following programmes were due to undergo a major change and a SET specific visit was required to assess whether the programmes continued to meet the SETs:

Education Provider	Programme Name	Summary of Changes
University of Hertfordshire	BSc (Hons) Diagnostic Radiography & Imaging BSc (Hons) Radiography & Oncology BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy	Multiple changes planned as part of a forthcoming programme review Including - Structure and delivery of programme Change in module content, distribution and assessment (taught and clinic modules) Change in the integration of the taught and practice elements of the programme Expansion of programme aims and learning outcomes

Action: AC (by 31 December 2006)

- 9.4 The Panel noted that a previous visit to another programme at the education provider had raised issues about an assessment tool used across a number of programmes. The Panel asked that the Visitors on the SET specific visit should be made aware of this.

Action: AC (by 31 December 2006)**Item 10.06/127 INSTITUTE OF ARTS IN THERAPY AND EDUCATION**

- 10.1 The Panel received a paper for discussion/approval from the Executive.
- 10.2 The Panel noted that on 12-13 July 2006, an approvals visit had been held at the MA Integrative Arts Psychotherapy programme at the Institute of Arts in Therapy and Education (IATE). On 10 October 2006, the

Approvals Panel had accepted the Visitors' report for the programme, including the conditions recommended by the Visitors.

- 10.3 The Panel noted that, on 31 October 2006, the Executive had been informally notified by the education provider that the named programme leader had reduced her contact time with the education provider. This could have an impact on how the programme met SETs 3.3 and 3.5, although there were currently no conditions against those standards. The Visitors had imposed a condition against SET 3.4, which related to the core programme including at least one appropriately qualified Arts Psychotherapist or Art Therapist.
- 10.4 The Panel agreed that it appeared that the education provider did not fully appreciate the need to notify the HPC of significant changes to the programme. The Panel agreed that the reduction in contact time of the programme leader could adversely affect the programme. The Panel agreed that the Executive should request more information from the education provider about the change to the programme leader's contact time, to clarify the extent and implications of the change. The Panel agreed that this requirement should be imposed and that depending on the response from IATE, an additional condition may need to be included on the Visitors' report. This decision would be made at a future Panel meeting, if and when necessary. In the meantime, it was noted that the Visitors and Panel would require a satisfactory answer to this issue before the programme could be approved.

Action: AC (by 31 December 2006)

Item 11.06/128 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 11.1 There was no other business.

CHAIRMAN

DATE