

**Health Professions Council
Education and Training Committee 28 March 2007**

ACTION POINTS FROM THE APPROVALS COMMITTEE

Executive Summary and Recommendations

Introduction

At its meeting on 2 November 2006, the Approvals Committee agreed that, if it was disbanded, the remaining action points from that Committee should be monitored by the Education and Training Committee.

The Council on 14 December 2006 agreed to disband the Approvals Committee with effect from 31 December 2006.

The appendix to this paper sets out the current status of the remaining action points.

Decision

The Committee is requested to note the appendix.

Background information

See minutes of the Approvals Committee held on 2 November 2006, paragraph 4.5.

Resource implications

None.

Financial implications

None.

Appendices

Approvals Committee action points.

Date of paper

21 February 2007

ACTION POINTS
APPROVALS COMMITTEE

	Action point (and location in the minutes)	For the attention of	Action by	Comments
1	Subject to amendments discussed, revised approvals flowchart should be implemented (22 November 2005, Public minutes, 10.6)	KS	Ongoing	Actioned.
2	Programmes which have not been assessed against benchmark statements and request deferral of approvals visit on the basis of internal review processes should be granted deferral unless there is cause for concern about a programme. Maximum time limit permitted for deferral is 12 months. (22 November 2005, Public minutes, 14.3)	KS	Ongoing	Actioned.
3	In the light of the QAA major review and the AODP curriculum review, HPC visits to ODP programmes would be scheduled for May 2006-September 2007. (22 November 2005, Public minutes, 16.3)	KS	Ongoing to September 2007	Actioned.
5	HPC should approve all programmes that contain the Standards of Proficiency, irrespective of the level of the final qualification award. (2 March 2006, Public minutes, 7.6)	AC	Ongoing	See also the decision made by the Education and Training Committee on 29 March 2006.
6	HPC to contact all education providers to clarify that HPC approval of a programme was ongoing (until any major change was considered) and HPC did not need to be involved in quinquennial reviews of programmes. It should also be made clear that Operating Department Practitioner programmes would be visited in 2006-7 (5 September 2006, Public minutes, 4.4)	AC	2 November 2006	Actioned.

7	Annual monitoring process and Major/minor change process: Executive should provide feedback to Visitors about outcome of recommendations. (5 September 2006, Public minutes, 4.6.1)	AC	Ongoing	Actioned.
8	Arrangements for visits when a Visitor is unavailable at short notice: Proposed visit on 6-7 September 2006 to Foundation Degree in Pre-hospital and Unscheduled Emergency Care programme at University of Worcester should go ahead, in the individual circumstances of that visit. (5 September 2006, Public minutes, 6.8)	AC	6 September 2006	Actioned.
9	If a Visitor becomes unavailable for a visit at short notice, Chairman of Education and Training Committee should be asked to take Chairman's action on a case-by-case basis for individual visits. (5 September 2006, Public minutes, 6.10)	AC	Ongoing	
10	Annual monitoring of programmes currently going through the Approvals process: Programmes approved by HPC in prior academic year, or which were going through the approvals process, should not normally be subject to annual monitoring. (5 September 2006, Public minutes, 7.3)	AC	Ongoing	Actioned.
11	Institute of Healthcare Development Paramedic Programmes: (1) Executive should contact the three training centres identified by the annual monitoring process as requiring approvals visits, to seek clarification of the programmes' future and to arrange visits as appropriate; and (2) Executive should contact all other training centres to gather information about their programmes' future and approvals visit should be arranged as appropriate. Results of information should be reported to the Committee. (5 September 2006, Public minutes, 8.6)	AC	Ongoing to spring 2007	Ongoing. Planned update report to Education and Training Committee in June 2007. All new ambulance trusts have been contacted, but the responses have been inconsistent and delayed, so we are not in a position to report back to the Committee at this stage.

12	Advertising Protocol for Education Providers: reference to "relevant HPC Committee" to be amended to "Education and Training Committee". (5 September 2006, Public minutes, 14.2)	AC	2 November 2006	Actioned.
13	Advertising Protocol for Education Providers: Include standard statement on approval of a programme by HPC, which had been prepared for University and Colleges Admissions Service. (5 September 2006, Public minutes, 14.3)	AC	2 November 2006	Actioned.
14	Department should plan for impact of approving and monitoring programmes for professions which might become subject to statutory regulation, such as Applied Psychologists. (2 November 2006, Public minutes, 5.3)	AC	Ongoing	
15	Arrangements for monitoring programmes: Executive to circulate amended annual monitoring forum to Approvals Committee members for comment. (2 November 2006, Public minutes, 6.3)	AC	1 December 2006	Actioned.
16	HPC to continue to stress importance of complete and accurate information being supplied by education providers. The Executive should monitor the situation and, if it becomes apparent that incomplete information was being supplied, the Education and Training Committee should consider whether HPC's processes should be revised. (2 November 2006, Public minutes, 6.7)	AC	Ongoing	Actioned.
17	HPC should make it clear to education providers that only those students who commenced a programme after it had been approved by the Council would be eligible to apply for registration. (2 November 2006, Public minutes, 8.3)	AC	Ongoing	Actioned.