

The Health Professions Council

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Minutes of the Education and Training Panel held on **Thursday 29 May 2008** at Park House, 184 Kennington Park Road, London, SE11 4BU.

Present: Professor D Waller (Chairman)
Professor K Bryan
Ms C Farrell
Professor T Hazell
Ms P Sabine

In attendance:

Mr O Ammar, Education Manager
Mr C Bendall, Secretary to the Panel
Ms A Creighton, Head of Education (items 1-5 inclusive)
Ms T Samuel-Smith, Education Manager

Item 1.08/24 Appointment of panel chairman

- 1.1 The Panel agreed that Professor Waller should act as Chairman for the meeting.
- 1.2 The Chairman welcomed a member of the public who was in the public gallery.

Item 2.08/25 Apologies for absence

- 2.1 There were no apologies for absence.

Item 3.08/26 Approval of agenda

- 3.1 The Panel approved the agenda.

Item 4.08/27 Visitors' reports

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

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- 4.2 The Panel agreed that the new format of visitors' report was a great improvement and thanked the Executive for its work on the new format.
- 4.3 The Panel discussed the visitors' report on the BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy programme at the University of Central Lancashire. The Panel noted that the report had commended the programme for its use of case studies. The Panel noted that the report had been prepared before the Education and Training Committee's decision that commendations should only be used to highlight good practice.
- 4.4 The Panel discussed the visitors' report on the BSc (Hons) Radiography programme at the University of Leeds. The Panel noted that the report included a condition that the programme team should redraft and resubmit the programme documentation, to remove references to the HPC approving placements. The Panel noted that conditions in visitors' reports sometimes required that programme documentation should be amended.
- 4.5 The Panel noted that a Professional Liaison Group had met in 2007-2008 and had proposed changes to the standards of education and training (SETs) and the related guidance. The Panel noted that the proposed changes would be considered by the Education and Training Committee on 10 June 2008. Members could raise any issues about the proposed guidance at that meeting, including whether any guidance should be given to visitors on setting conditions.
- 4.6 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 |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| University of Nottingham | Masters of Nutrition (MNutr) | Full time |
| University of Nottingham | Masters of Nutrition (MNutr) | Full time accelerated |
| University of Central Lancashire | BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy | Full time |
| University of Central Lancashire | BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy | Part time |
| University of Leeds | BSc (Hons) Radiography (Diagnostic) | Full time |
| The University of Northampton | BSc (Hons) Podiatry | Full time |

Item 5.08/28 Visitors' reports with representations

- 5.1 The Panel received a paper for discussion/approval from the Executive.
- 5.2 The Panel noted that the Foundation Degree in Health Sciences programme at the Open University had been the subject of an

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approvals visit on 18-19 March 2008. The visitors' report had included a condition against SET 3.2, requiring the education provider to submit the collaborative agreement for the S210 (Improving your health science practice) course. The report had stated that, from the documentation and discussions with the programme team and senior team, it was clear that the collaborative agreement for the second practice based module (S210) was not available. The visitors felt that in order to fully determine whether there was effective management of the programme the collaborative agreement must be submitted.

- 5.3 The Panel noted that the visitors' report had also included a condition against SET 6.5, requiring the education provider to submit the external assessors' interim reports for the S210 (Improving your health science practice) and S2xx (the psychology of health and ill health) courses. The visitors had noted that the external assessor provided an interim report six to nine months before the course was presented and the visitors wished to determine whether there were effective mechanisms in place to assure appropriate standards in the assessment.
- 5.4 The Panel noted that education provider had made representations concerning the condition against SET 3.2. The education provider had explained that the collaborative agreement covered the whole programme and was not module-based. The education provider had also made representations concerning the condition against SET 6.5. The education provider stated that it was not possible at this time for the external assessor to prepare the interim report, due to the timescale indicated in paragraph 5.3, although the education provider offered to provide the report once it was available.
- 5.5 The Panel noted that the Foundation Degree in Paramedic Sciences programme at the Open University had been the subject of an approvals visit on 18-19 March 2008. The visitors' report had included similar conditions against SET 3.2 and 6.5 and the education provider had made representations on the same grounds as indicated above.
- 5.6 In respect of the representation concerning the condition for SET 3.2 in both of the above programmes, the Panel felt that as the collaborative agreement received prior to the visit stated it was for a module, the condition would be satisfied if the collaborative agreement was amended to state that it applied to the whole programme. The Panel agreed that the conditions should remain in the visitors' reports.
- 5.7 In respect of the representation concerning the condition against SET 6.5, the Panel noted that the visitors' report stated it had been

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clear, from documentation and discussion with the programme team, that modules were subject to two forms of external scrutiny (external assessment during the development of the course and external examiner scrutiny during course presentation). The visitors had requested copies of the external assessor interim reports. The Panel agreed that there was an apparent contradiction between the clarity over external scrutiny and the need for the visitors to see the interim reports. The Panel agreed that the visitors should be asked to provide clarification on the reasons for the condition to a future Panel meeting, which would decide on whether the condition should remain.

- 5.8 The Panel noted that the MA Dramatherapy programme at Iron Mill Institute, Exeter had been the subject of an approvals visit on 5-6 March 2008. The visitors' report had included a condition against SET 6.4, requiring that the education provider had to clarify the elements which underpinned each assessment criteria. The education provider had asked for clarification on what was required. The visitors had explained that there had been a lack of clarity around how assessments were made and that the impression from the programme documentation was that assessment was subjective. The visitors had advised that there was a need to develop published objective criteria, to enable greater parity of assessment and lessen the possibility of student grievance procedures. The Executive had passed this explanation to the education provider.
- 5.9 The Panel noted that the education provider had made representations against the condition imposed against SET 6.4. In addition, it had made representations against the conditions imposed against SET 2.2.2 and 2.2.3. The condition against SET 2.2.2 required that the education provider should review the admissions procedures to ensure that criminal conviction checks had been completed by the point of registration on the programme. The condition against SET 2.2.3 required that the education provider should review the admissions procedures to ensure that occupational health clearance had been completed by the point of registration on the programme. The education provider felt that these conditions would bring the programme out of line with the requirements on other MA dramatherapy programmes in the UK; that students would not have the benefit of face-to-face staff support during the process of applying; students might feel that the procedures were onerous; and that the new procedure would be less efficient (staff would have to deal with individual enquiries rather than dealing with students as a group).
- 5.10 The Panel agreed that the conditions against SETs 2.2.2 and 2.2.3 were consistent with the requirements of the standards and noted that students would be aware of the admission requirements when

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applying for a place on the programme. The Panel did not believe that the students would find the admission requirements to be onerous, as similar requirements were in place for many other programmes approved by the HPC. The Panel agreed that these conditions should remain in the visitors' report.

- 5.11 In connection with the education provider's representation against the condition imposed against SET 6.4, the Panel felt that there would be an element of subjective judgement in assessing some elements of a dramatherapy programme, such as dramatic performance. The Panel felt that it would be straightforward to prepare assessment criteria for elements such as written work. The Panel noted that the visitors had, at least initially, apparently been unable to agree on how to advise the education provider. The Panel agreed that the condition and accompanying reason were not clear in the visitors report and appreciated the difficulty that the education provider had in establishing how and why the standard was not met. The Panel agreed that the documentation detailing the assessment criteria needed to be scrutinised before a decision could be made on the appropriateness of the condition. The Panel decided that they wished to seek the professional view of the Arts Therapist member of the Education and Training Committee, before making a final decision on whether to accept the visitors report, or accept it and vary the conditions. (Secretary's note: The Arts Therapist member of the Education and Training Committee reviewed the information and the matter was considered further by the Education and Training Panel on 10 June 2008).

Item 6.08/29 Programme approval

- 6.1 The Panel received a paper for discussion/approval from the Executive.
- 6.2 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 SETs:

| Education provider | Programme name | Delivery mode |
|-----------------------|--|---------------|
| University of Ulster | BSc (Hons) Biomedical Science with DPP (Pathology) | Full time |
| University of Cumbria | MSc Physiotherapy (Accelerated Route) | Full time |
| University of Cumbria | MSc Occupational Therapy (Accelerated Route) | Full time |
| University of Cumbria | BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy | Full time |
| University of Cumbria | BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy | Part time |

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| University of Cumbria | BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy | Full time |
| University of Leeds | BSc (Hons) Radiography (Diagnostic) | Full time |

Item 7.08/30 University of Plymouth – Correction paper

- 7.1 The Panel received a paper for discussion/approval from the Executive.
- 7.2 The Panel noted that the Panel held on 26 March 2008 had approved the Diploma in Higher Education Paramedic Science (Community Emergency Health) at the University of Plymouth. Unfortunately, while the title of the programmes had been correct on the visitors' reports, there had been an inaccuracy in the title of the programmes listed on the executive summary and therefore in the titles which had been subsequently approved.
- 7.3 The Panel agreed to retract the decision made at the Education and Training Panel on 26 March 2008 and to approve the following programmes:

| Education provider | Programme name | Delivery mode |
|------------------------|--|------------------------|
| University of Plymouth | Diploma in Higher Education Paramedic Studies (Community Emergency Health) | Full time Part time |

Action: TS-S (by 3 July 2008)

Item 8.08/31 Minor changes

- 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 visitors. The visitors were satisfied that the changes were minor and that the programmes continued to meet the SETs. The visitors did not wish to recommend an approvals visit.
- 8.3 The Panel agreed that the following programmes had undergone minor change and continued to meet the SETs:

| Education Provider | Programme Name | Mode of Study |
|--|------------------------------------|---------------|
| University of Portsmouth | BSc (Hons) Diagnostic Radiography | Full Time |
| University of Portsmouth | BSc (Hons) Therapeutic Radiography | Full Time |
| University of the West of England, Bristol | BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy | Full Time |

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| University of the West of England, Bristol | BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy | Part Time |
| University of the West of England, Bristol | Graduate Diploma Occupational Therapy | Part Time |
| University of the West of England, Bristol | BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy | Full Time |
| University of the West of England, Bristol | Graduate Diploma Physiotherapy | Full Time |

Action: OA (by 3 July 2008)

Item 9.08/32 Major changes

- 9.1 The Panel received a paper for discussion/approval from the Executive.
- 9.2 The Panel received a tabled paper to replace the executive summary which had originally been circulated. The Panel noted that the tabled paper stated that the MSc Rehabilitation Science programme at the University of Brighton had been subject to major change. The major change involved the introduction of an exit award of postgraduate diploma, with eligibility to apply for HPC registration.
- 9.3 The Panel noted that the visitors were satisfied that the changes were major and that the programmes continued to meet the SETs. The visitors did not wish to recommend an approvals visit. The Panel noted verbal advice from the Executive that the creation of a new pathway through the major change process set a precedent.
- 9.4 The Panel agreed that the following programmes had undergone major change and continued to meet the SETs:

| Education Provider | Programme Name | Mode of Study |
|--|--|----------------------|
| Sheffield Hallam University | Diploma of Higher Education Paramedic Practice | Full Time |
| University of the West of England, Bristol | Prescribing Principles (Level 3 and Level M) | Part Time |
| University of Brighton | MSc Rehabilitation Science | Full Time |
| University of Brighton | Pg Dip in Rehabilitation Science | Full Time |
| University of Lincoln | BSc (Hons) Applied Biomedical Science | Part Time |
| University of Lincoln | BSc (Hons) Applied Biomedical Science | Full Time |

Action: OA (by 3 July 2008)

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Item 10.08/33 Annual monitoring declarations for approval

- 10.1 The Panel received a paper for discussion/approval from the Executive.
- 10.2 The Panel noted that, as part of the monitoring of programmes, programmes in group A needed to complete a declaration form. Education providers were expected to submit the monitoring documentation to HPC within 28 days of their institution's own internal annual monitoring process.
- 10.3 The Panel agreed that the following programmes should continue to be approved as meeting the SETs:

| Education Provider | Programme Name | Mode of Study |
|-----------------------------------|---|---------------|
| London Metropolitan University | BSc (Hons) Human Nutrition & Dietetics | Full Time |
| London Metropolitan University | MSc Human Nutrition & Dietetics | Full Time |
| London Metropolitan University | Pg Dip Human Nutrition & Dietetics | Full Time |
| St George's, University of London | Foundation Degree in Health & Medical Sciences | Mixed Mode |
| University of Cumbria | Graduate Diploma Occupational Therapy | Full Time |
| University of East Anglia | MSc Occupational Therapy (Pre-registration) | Full Time |
| University of East Anglia | MSc Physiotherapy | Full Time |
| University of East Anglia | BSc (Hons) Speech & Language Therapy | Full Time |
| University of East Anglia | DipHE Paramedic Science | Full Time |
| University of Exeter | BSc (Hons) Medical Imaging (Diagnostic Radiography) | Full Time |
| University of Plymouth | MA Dramatherapy | Part Time |
| University of Salford | BSc (Hons) Diagnostic Radiography | Full Time |
| University of Salford | BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy | Full Time |
| University of Salford | BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy | Part Time |
| University of Salford | BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy | Full Time |
| University of Salford | BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy | Part Time |
| University of Salford | BSc (Hons) Podiatry | Full Time |
| University of Salford | BSc (Hons) Podiatry | Part Time |
| University of Salford | BSc (Hons) Prosthetics & Orthotics | Full Time |
| University of Sheffield | B.Med Sci (Hons) Speech | Full Time |

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| University of Sheffield | MMED Sci Clinical Communication Studies | Full Time |
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Item 11.08/34 Annual monitoring – programmes requiring an approval visit

- 11.1 The Panel received a paper for discussion/approval from the Executive.
- 11.2 The Panel noted that, as part of the monitoring of programmes, education providers in group B were expected to complete an audit form and submit it with their internal quality reports and external examiners' reports from the last two academic years. Four annual monitoring assessment days had been held to consider submissions from programmes. As a result of the assessment days, correspondence and follow-up work, visitors had recommended that two programmes required an approval visit to gather evidence of how the programmes continued to meet the SETs.
- 11.3 The Panel agreed that an approvals visit was required to the following programmes to assess the programmes against the SETs:

| Education Provider | Programme Name | Mode of Study |
|-------------------------------|---|---------------|
| Glasgow Caledonian University | BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy | Full Time |
| Glasgow Caledonian University | MSc Occupational Therapy (Pre-registration) | Full Time |

Action: OA (ongoing to 3 July 2008)

Item 12.08/35 Annual monitoring audits for approval

- 12.1 The Panel received a paper for discussion/approval from the Executive.
- 12.2 The Panel noted that, as part of the monitoring of programmes, visitors had considered submissions from education providers in group B.
- 12.3 The Panel agreed to accept the visitors' recommendations that the following programmes continued to be approved as meeting the SETs:

| Education Provider | Programme Name | Mode of Study |
|--------------------|--|---------------|
| City University | BSc (Hons) Speech and Language Therapy | Full Time |

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| Glasgow Caledonian University | BSc (Hons) Biomedical Science | Full Time |
| Glasgow Caledonian University | BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy | Full Time |
| Glasgow Caledonian University | MSc Rehabilitation Science | Full Time |
| Goldsmiths College University of London | MA Art Psychotherapy | Full Time |
| Goldsmiths College University of London | MA Art Psychotherapy | Part Time |
| Leeds Metropolitan University | BSc (Hons) Clinical Language Sciences | Full Time |
| Leeds Metropolitan University | BSc (Hons) Dietetics | Full Time |
| Leeds Metropolitan University | BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy | Full Time |
| Leeds Metropolitan University | MSc Occupational Therapy (Pre-registration) | Full Time |
| Leeds Metropolitan University | MSc Physiotherapy (Pre-registration) | Full Time |
| Leeds Metropolitan University | Pg Dip Dietetics | Full Time |
| Matthew Boulton College | BSc (Hons) Podiatry | Full Time |
| Northumbria University at Newcastle | Prescribing for Non Medical Health Professionals (level 3) | Part Time |
| Northumbria University at Newcastle | Prescribing for Non Medical Health Professionals (M level) | Part Time |
| Queen Margaret University | BSc (Hons) Diagnostic Radiography | Full Time |
| Queen Margaret University | BSc (Hons) Dietetics | Full Time |
| Queen Margaret University | BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy | Full Time |
| Queen Margaret University | BSc (Hons) Podiatry | Full Time |
| Queen Margaret University | BSc (Hons) Therapeutic Radiography | Full Time |
| Queen Margaret University | BSc Podiatry | Full Time |
| Queen Margaret University | MSc Physiotherapy (Pre-registration) | Full Time |
| Queen Margaret University | MSc Dietetics | Full Time |
| Queen Margaret University | MSc Dietetics | Part Time |
| Queen Margaret University | MSc Occupational Therapy (Pre-registration) | Full Time |
| Queen Margaret University | MSc Radiotherapy and Oncology | Full Time |
| Queen Margaret University | Pg Dip Dietetics | Full Time |
| Queen Margaret University | Pg Dip Dietetics | Part Time |
| Queen Margaret University | Pg Dip Occupational Therapy | Full Time |
| Queen Margaret University | Pg Dip Radiotherapy and Oncology | Full Time |

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| The University of Northampton | Diploma of Higher Education in Paramedic Science | Full Time |
| University of Greenwich | Foundation Degree in Paramedic Science | Full Time |
| University of Strathclyde | BSc (Hons) Speech and Language Pathology | Full Time |
| University of Teesside | BSc (Hons) Diagnostic Radiography | Full Time |
| University of Teesside | BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy | Full Time |
| University of Teesside | BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy | Part Time |
| University of Teesside | BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy | Full Time |
| University of Teesside | MSc Occupational Therapy (Pre-registration) | Full Time |
| University of Teesside | MSc Physiotherapy (Pre-registration) | Full Time Accelerated |
| University of Teesside | Pg Dip Occupational Therapy (Pre-registration) | Full Time |
| University of Ulster | BSc (Hons) Podiatry | Full Time |
| University of Wales Institute Cardiff | BSc (Hons) Speech and Language Therapy | Full Time |
| York St John University | BHSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy | Full Time |
| York St John University | BHSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy | Part Time |
| York St John University | BHSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy | Full Time Accelerated |

Chairman

Date