

Education and Training Committee

Minutes of the 97th meeting of the Education and Training Committee held as follows:

Date: Thursday 12 November 2020

Time: 10.30am

Venue: MS Teams

Members: Maureen Drake
Stephen Wordsworth (Chair)
Luke Jenkinson
Penny Joyce
Sonya Lam
Kathryn Thirlaway

In attendance:

Ewan Shears, Governance Officer
Kellie Green, Professionalism and Upstream Regulation Lead
Charlotte Rogers, Policy Manager
Matthew Clayton, Senior Policy Officer
Brendon Edmonds, Head of Education
Olivia Bird, Policy Manager
Jamie Hunt, Education Manager
Jacqueline Ladds, Executive Director of Policy and External Relations
Senyonga Fokum, HEE Global Engagement Directorate
Jon James, HEE Global Engagement Directorate

Public Agenda

Item 1 - Chairs welcome and introduction

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed members and the Executive to the meeting and extended a welcome to Senyonga Fokum and Jon James from HEE Global Engagement Directorate who had joined the meeting as observers.

Item 2 - Apologies for absence

- 2.1 No apologies were received

Item 3 - Approval of agenda

- 3.1 The Committee approved the agenda

Item 4 - Declaration of members' interests

- 4.1 No public interests were declared.

Item 5 - Public minutes of the Education and Training Committee meeting of 10 September (ETC 42/20)

- 5.1 The Committee approved the public minutes of its meetings of 10 September 2020

Item 6 - Matters arising (ETC 43/20)

- 6.1 The Committee noted the matters arising.

Items for discussion/approval

Item 7 - Professionalism and Prevention Framework (ETC 44/20)

- 7.1 The Committee received a paper from the Professionalism and Upstream Regulation Lead, outlining the newly developed Prevention Framework and the success criteria involved.
- 7.2 The Committee welcomed the Framework and noted the following points:-
- the importance of tying the framework in with the Corporate Strategy;
 - there was discussion surrounding the terminology of 'relative change' within the success criteria. The Committee were in support of using the

word 'relative', noting that it was not about reducing FTP numbers but rather the proportion that make it to the final hearing; and

- the Committee reflected on the importance of evidencing responsiveness as a regulator and demonstrating a feedback loop back to education providers to instigate training and if necessary, making changes to SETS and SOPS.

7.3 The Executive Director of Policy and External Relations, noted that SMT were mindful of the need to link the framework with the Corporate Strategy, along with the Registrant Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the EDI Strategy.

7.4 The Committee were in support of the Framework noting it would be presented to the Council in December.

Item 8 - Advance Practice update (ETC 45/20)

8.1 The Committee received the update paper from the Policy Manager outlining the interim findings from the independent research team from the University of Bradford for the Advanced Practice (AP) project.

8.2 The Committee noted that the Chief Allied Health Professions Officer for Northern Ireland (NI) fed into the research and noted that there were no advance practice education programmes in NI at the time of the survey but there would be in the future.

8.3 The Committee observed that, 'regulating multi-professional practice' was listed under point 12 as one of the main disadvantages of regulating advance level practice. The Executive would explore further as to the meanings behind the listed advantages and disadvantages.

8.4 The Committee noted that although it was hoped that final research report would have been available for today's meeting, that this had not been possible. The Committee further noted that the independent research team would present a session on the findings of the final report and a Q&A with Council members on 17 December and that further updates would continue to be presented to the Committee, with the final options and decisions paper to be presented to Council at its March 2021 meeting.

8.5 The Committee noted that in relation to ongoing Service User engagement work, Advance Practice has been included as one of the three priority topics and that the findings from that would also be fed back shortly.

Item 9 - Update on timeline for public consultation on SET 1 for Operating Department Practitioners (ETC 46/20)

9.1 The Committee received the paper from the Senior Policy Officer, which provided a background to the proposed SET 1 threshold increase for ODPs

and the early engagement undertaken with stakeholders prior to the planned public consultation between 25 January and 26 April 2021.

- 9.2 The Committee noted the paper highlights some of the significant issues foreseen going forward and noted that following legal advice, the HCPC should follow a four-nation approach to any changes.
- 9.3 The Executive would review the wording in relation to 2.9 in relation to challenges and will confirm as a point of reference whether the banding level mentioned under 'Provisions in Scotland' is stated correctly and equitable to elsewhere in the UK.
- 9.4 The Executive confirmed that it would pick up separately with Committee Member, Sonya Lam in relation to a targeted approach to stakeholder engagement in Scotland.
- 9.5 The Committee recommend the paper to Council for approval.

Item 10 – Update to Guidance on Health and Character (ETC 47/20)

- 10.1 The Committee received the paper from the Senior Policy Officer, which provided an update to the health and character declaration guidance for applicants and registrants about the types of information the HCPC considers relevant and when they should or must disclose this information. The Committee noted that the planned public consultation would be between 11 January and 2 April 2021.
- 10.2 The Committee noted that separate guidance is provided to education providers and that a survey response shows that the education providers are generally satisfied with the guidance, and therefore only minor changes has been made to those.
- 10.3 The Committee noted the relationship between health and character declarations and the professionalism and prevention agenda, and the Executive confirmed this was a consideration.
- 10.4 The Committee recommend the paper to Council for approval.

Item 11 - Principles for service user input into education quality assurance (ETC 48/20)

- 11.1 The Committee received a paper from the Head of Education, which set out draft principles to guide HCPC's approach to service user involvement in the quality assurance of education and training programmes.
- 11.2 The Committee noted that the pilot would open a dialogue to consider and evaluate the concerns of the service user experts (lay visitors).

11.3 The Committee were supportive of the changes and noted that the proposed changes could make more effective use of service user expert time and lead to a broader scope of their role.

11.4 The Committee agreed the following, subject to the evaluation of the pilot: -

- the draft principles for service user involvement;
- the draft principles to be trialled within the new quality assurance model currently being piloted; and
- service users to be appointed as expert advisors in keeping with the amended competency framework for this role as outlined in Appendix 1 of the paper.

Item 12 - Education QA model pilot – project update and defining further ETC involvement (ETC 49/20)

12.1 The Committee received the paper from the Education Manager.

12.2 The Committee noted Appendix 1 which provided the new education QA model pilot status report and commented that it was positive to see no delays encountered so far. The Committee were satisfied with the progress that was on track, and were also satisfied with the risks and mitigations presented in the report.

12.3 The Committee noted section 2 of the report that provides an update on the two phased approach to developing and reviewing the standards of education and training (SETs) through the pilot and on full implementation of the model.

12.4 The Committee noted that the Executive has received positive legal advice which notes that it is reasonable to repackage existing standards for the new model, and that it is not practical to formally review the SETs along the timeframe for the project. The Committee noted the proposed repackaging would make no changes to the current standards but would change and split way they are applied at institution and programme level.

12.5 The Committee further noted that a full review of the SETs would be planned for September 2024.

12.6 The Committee welcomed the proposed approach to the application and review of the SETs.

12.7 The Committee agreed that visitor recommendations from pilot activities should be brought to the Committee as normal through Education and Training Committee (Panel) meetings and where a decision relates to pilot activity, the Executive should provide background and supporting information as required to support the Committee's decision making.

12.8 The Committee were invited to discuss their future involvement in operational level decision making and agreed that an expert reference group with the appropriate governance links could be formed. The Executive and Chair of Committee would explore this further outside the meeting and the Executive will bring a discussion and options paper on this subject to the March 2021 Committee meeting.

12.9 The Committee confirmed to the Executive that it should at this stage continue receiving update papers in relation to the pilot and their relevance could be reviewed as the project progresses.

Item 13 - Any other business

13.1 A Committee member raised a matter of the current CPD model and whether it provides sufficient assurance.

13.2 The Executive assured the Committee that the newly appointed Insight and Intelligence Lead would be reviewing the data that is returned from the FTP case classification and the data returned from CPD audits to identify any areas that require focus. The Committee welcomed the data lead approach and look forward to the findings of the review.

Item 14 - Date and time of next meeting

14.1 Thursday 11 March 2021

2021 Dates

- 11 February - workshop - Virtual
- 11 March - Virtual
- 10 June - Virtual
- 9 September - In person
- 11 November - Virtual

Signed

Date