

## HCPC major change process report

Education provider	Teesside University
Name of programme(s)	BSc (Hons) Operating Department Practice (Apprenticeship), Work based learning
Date submission received	07 January 2020
Case reference	CAS-15876-X1W5T4

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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:

Alexander Harmer	Operating department practitioner
Joanne Thomas	Operating department practitioner
John Archibald	HCPC executive

## Section 2: Programme details

Programme name	BSc (Hons) Operating Department Practice (Apprenticeship)
Mode of study	WBL (Work based learning)
Profession	Operating department practitioner
First intake	01 January 2020
Maximum learner cohort	Up to 10
Intakes per year	2
Assessment reference	MC04548

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 has informed us they propose running their BSc (Hons) Operating Department Practice (Apprenticeship) programme in the north west of England, at and for BMI Healthcare in Manchester. The award given will be the same at the Manchester site as that at the main campus. The provision will be a trial programme initially. The education provider intends to continue with this arrangement, and should it not work learners will transfer to study at the main campus. The education provider informed us the provision in Manchester will take significant elements of the existing programme. They said by email they are seeking to enter in to a sub-contracting agreement with BMI Healthcare to enable them to co-deliver the teaching. The education provider confirmed they will manage practice-based learning, and programme design and delivery and assessment will not change.

**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.

**3.9 There must be an adequate number of appropriately qualified and experienced staff in place to deliver an effective programme.**

**3.10 Subject areas must be delivered by educators with relevant specialist knowledge and expertise.**

**Reason:** To evidence these SETs, the education provider said BMI Healthcare provide an adequate number of appropriately qualified and experienced staff to deliver the programme at Manchester and that they will ensure that all tutors are able to demonstrate their ability both to teach and assess to the appropriate level and provide

full academic support for the modules they are intending to deliver. The visitors were informed staff are fully qualified Health Care Practitioners with relevant skills and experience. However, the visitors had not seen details of those staff working at the new site and were unsure whether there is the same quality of staff and the appropriate expertise provided across both the education provider and BMI Healthcare site. The visitors therefore need further information of the qualifications, experience and knowledge / expertise of the staff teaching at the BMI Healthcare site.

**Suggested evidence:** The education provider needs to provide further details, for example, curriculum vitae, of the qualification, experience and knowledge / expertise of the staff teaching at the BMI Healthcare site.

### **3.11 An effective programme must be in place to ensure the continuing professional and academic development of educators, appropriate to their role in the programme.**

**Reason:** The visitors were made aware there will be a system of staff development in place for the provision at the new site. However, the visitors were unclear about how this will be planned for the staff at BMI Healthcare to ensure the staff will be supported in the educator role. The visitors therefore need to see further information of training / induction and staff development for BMI Healthcare staff so the visitors know staff are able to deliver the programme effectively.

**Suggested evidence:** The education provider needs to provide further evidence of training / induction and staff development, for example, a plan, for BMI Healthcare staff so the visitors know staff are able to deliver the programme effectively.

## **Section 5: Visitors' recommendation**

In considering the evidence provided by the education provider as part of the initial submission, the visitors were satisfied that there is sufficient evidence that our standards continue to be met, and therefore recommend that the programme(s) remain approved.

This report, including the recommendation of the visitors, will be considered at the 25 March 2020 meeting of the ETC. Following this meeting, this report should be read alongside the ETC's decision notice, which are available [on our website](#).