

Council, 24 May 2017

Policy and Standards Department report

Executive summary and recommendations

Introduction

This report provides the Council with an update into the work of the Policy and Standards Directorate in the period March 2017 to May 2017.

Decision

The Council is invited to discuss the report.

Background information

None

Resource implications

None as a result of this paper

Financial implications

None as a result of this paper

Appendices

None

Date of paper

12 May 2017

Policy and Standards Directorate report – 24 May 2017

This paper provides an update about the work of the Directorate.

1. Consultations

Recently closed

- Consultation on revised guidance on confidentiality. The outcomes of this consultation are due to be considered by the Education and Training Committee and the Council at their meetings in June and July 2017.

2. Education research

- The Executive is developing a draft brief for research which would explore with stakeholders our current approach to education quality assurance. The brief is due to be considered by the Education and Training Committee at its meeting in June 2017 with invitations to tender sent shortly afterwards.

3. Paramedic threshold level of qualification for entry to the Register ('SET 1')

- The Education and Training Committee is due to consider a paper at its next meeting on whether to recommend consulting on changing the current threshold level of qualification for paramedics set out in the first of the standards of education and training. A large majority of training is now delivered above the existing threshold set out in the Standards, with work across the UK to increase the amount of provision at degree level. Subject to the Committee's discussion and agreement, a draft consultation paper would be brought for approval to the Education and Training Committee and Council in September 2017.

4. Research

- **Understanding the prevalence of fitness to practise cases about paramedics and social workers in England (University of Surrey)**
Interviews are now complete and data is being analysed. Focus groups with registrants and service users have been taking place. Workshops with stakeholders in each profession took place in late April 2017 to begin to explore the emerging findings and potential corrective action. The final report is due to be presented to the Council by the research team in September 2017.