

## **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:

<b>Education provider</b>	<b>Programme name</b>	<b>Delivery mode</b>
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:

<b>Education Provider</b>	<b>Programme Name</b>	<b>Mode of Study</b>
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**

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