

Josh MacAlister
Chief Executive
Frontline
13-14 Buckingham Street
London WC2N 6D

Chair: Anna van der Gaag
Chief Executive and Registrar: Marc Seale

14 April 2014

Dear Mr. MacAlister,

Frontline

Thank you for your letter of 10 April 2014 seeking a review of the timeframe for the further approval visit to Frontline's programme which formed part of the decision made by the Education and Training Committee (ETC) in respect of that programme on 27 March 2014.

As Chair of the ETC it is not open to me to interfere with that decision. However, I can put your request before the ETC if I am satisfied that it is appropriate to do so.

I understand that you are seeking to bring the visit date forward to mid-May, largely because of concerns about the financial and contractual liabilities which Frontline may incur if the HCPC approval process is delayed.

HCPC's position is that prospective programme providers should allow sufficient time when seeking HCPC approval and, in particular, should not enter into contractual arrangements or incur liabilities on the assumption that HCPC approval by a given date is a foregone conclusion. As onerous as those potential liabilities may be for Frontline, taken alone they do not constitute sufficient reason for the ETC to depart from its normal processes and procedures.

However, part of the rationale for the decision of 27 March 2014 was to provide Frontline with sufficient time to respond to the conditions imposed. If Frontline believes that it can meet the conditions within a shorter timeframe then I consider that your request should be put before the ETC. Accordingly, I have asked HCPC's Secretariat to arrange for your request to be put before a meeting of the ETC at the earliest opportunity.

As this request is for the variation of a decision taken at a panel meeting, it is business that can be considered at a further panel meeting (rather than at the full ETC) and I do not consider that it is of such complexity that it can only be considered by the original panel. If you disagree on this point please let me know, but do bear in mind that it may take longer to arrange a further meeting of the original panel.

My decision to put your request before the ETC should not be taken to mean that the panel which considers it will accede to the request and you should be aware that the panel will need to be satisfied of both the merits of your request and its practical resource implications, including the availability of visitors.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "J. Tweed." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and a period at the end.

Joy Tweed
Chair, Education and Training Committee