Council, 6 February 2014

Education Report

Executive summary and recommendations

Introduction

The report sets out the main activities of the Education Department since the last meeting of Council. It includes statistical information and highlights key work undertaken.

health & care professions council

Decision

The Council is requested to discuss the report.

Background information

None

Resource implications

The resources for the Department are set out in the annual workplan and budget 2013-14.

Financial implications

None

Appendices

Education Report



Education Department

Management Information Pack

Brendon Edmonds, Director of Education January 2014

Janua	ry 2014 HC	PC Management information pack	Education Department
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Approval process

The Department has spent the last few months organising and attending approval visits for the 2013–14 academic year. Since the last Council meeting on 4 December 2013, 8 visits covering 16 programmes have taken place. In total, 75 visits across 168 programmes have been arranged from September 2013 - August 2014. The majority of these visits are to social worker programmes (71%) and AMHP programmes (17%).

The schedule of visits is now closed until September 2014, as we require six months' notice to arrange a visit.

Annual monitoring process

The Department has spent the past few months finalising and initiating the annual monitoring process for the 2013–14 academic year. All education providers have now been contacted to confirm their individual requirements and we have begun to receive the first submissions already.

The first two assessment days have been confirmed later this month, with a further three assessment days scheduled in March/April, two in May/June and one in August 2014. As a consequence, it is envisaged that the majority of visitor reports will be considered by Education and Training Panels in May, June, July and August 2014.

Major change process

Since our last report to Council, the Department has received 18 new major change notifications, covering 24 programmes. The Education and Training Panel considered 90 programmes which had engaged with the major change process on 3 December 2013 and decided that each of these programmes continued to meet our standards of education and training and an approval visit was not required.

Concerns process

The Department has received one concern which fell within our remit in the 2013–14 academic year. However, this concern was referred to the Fitness to Practice Department for further investigation. There are currently no outstanding concerns.

See section 2 for more information on the above operational processes.

Independent and supplementary prescribing programmes

Following recent legislative changes to allow appropriately trained chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to independently prescribe, 65 independent prescribing programmes were considered via a documentary approval process and approved by the Education and Training Panel in December 2013. This included 53 programmes which changed from supplementary prescribing to independent prescribing, 12 programmes with a supplementary prescribing exit point and 10 conversion programmes. 34 programmes will also be considered by the Education and Training Panel this month.

We are also scheduling full approval visits to programmes where an education provider is not currently approved to deliver supplementary prescribing. In 2013-14, one visit to a new independent prescribing programme has been arranged.

Partners

The Department continues to engage in visitor recruitment activities to backfill vacancies in existing professions as well as preparing for new areas of work (such as lay visitors). Interviews took place in December 2013 and art therapist, biomedical scientist, radiographer and hearing aid dispenser visitors were successfully recruited. New visitor training for these visitors takes place this week.

We were unable to recruit drama therapist, prosthesist / orthotist or chiropodist / podiatrist visitors with the prescription only medicine

(POM) qualification, so further recruitment will take place from October 2014. Recruitment activities for lay visitors began last month, with interviews expected to take place in June and new visitor training in July 2014.

Seminars

The Department has spent the last couple of months coordinating participant feedback from the eight education seminars delivered between September 2013 – February 2014. A paper analysing this feedback will be taken to the Education and Training Committee in March 2014.

We have continued to run additional social worker specific seminars this year to recognise the different level of awareness with our processes and the increase in the number of professions that we now regulate. We have also run seminars focused on service user and carer involvement in education and training following the introduction of our new standard of education and training relating to service user and carer involvement.

Publications

The Department has recently undertaken an analysis of our operational activities in the 2012 – 2013 academic year for inclusion in the Education annual report 2013. The report is due to be considered by the Education and Training Committee in March 2014 with publication anticipated in May 2014. The report will include a review of our first year of approval visits to programmes for social workers in England.

Liaison with stakeholders

The fifteenth issue of the Education update was distributed to education providers, visitors and other education stakeholders in week commencing 20 January 2014 and is available on the HCPC website at: www.hcpc-uk.org/education/update/

The following articles were included:

- Approving independent prescribing programmes
- Annual monitoring for 2013–14
- Review of approval visits to social work programmes 2012–13
- Approval visits for 2014–15
- The involvement of lay visitors in approval processes
- Paramedic Evidence Based Education Project
- Implementation of revised standards of proficiency
- Education seminars
- Outcome of the consultation on registration fees
- Professional indemnity and your registration
- Council and Education and Training Committee restructure
- Biomedical scientists and radiographers registration renewal
- Education and Training Committee and Panel dates 2014

Members of the Department met with the following groups from December 2013 – February 2014:

- CORU the Irish health regulator
- The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education
- NHS Education for Scotland
- The British Association of Social Workers
- The Higher Education Academy

Education system build major project

The project build phase commenced at the end of September 2013 following the sign off of the Project Initiation Document (PID) by the Executive Management Team. The PID defined the detail of the project delivery, the necessary quality of the products, how changes will be communicated and funded and the required activities needed to complete the project.

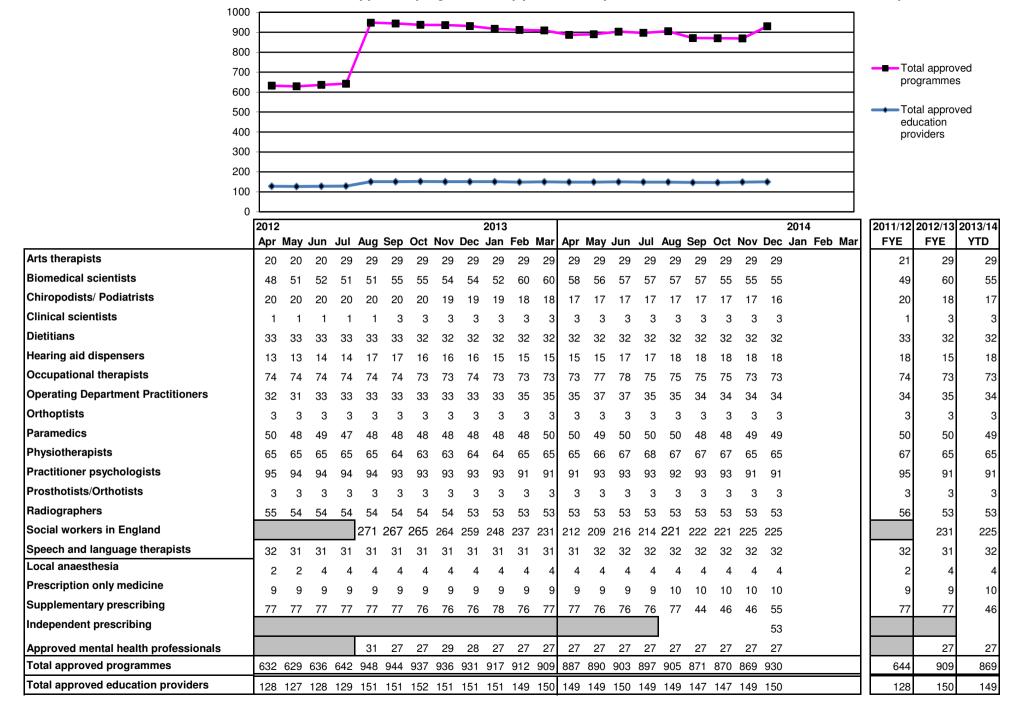
The external suppliers began to build the system in early November and constituent components of the system will be built in a series of seven cycles to allow the project team and members of the Department to test the new system and provide feedback, with changes being made where necessary.

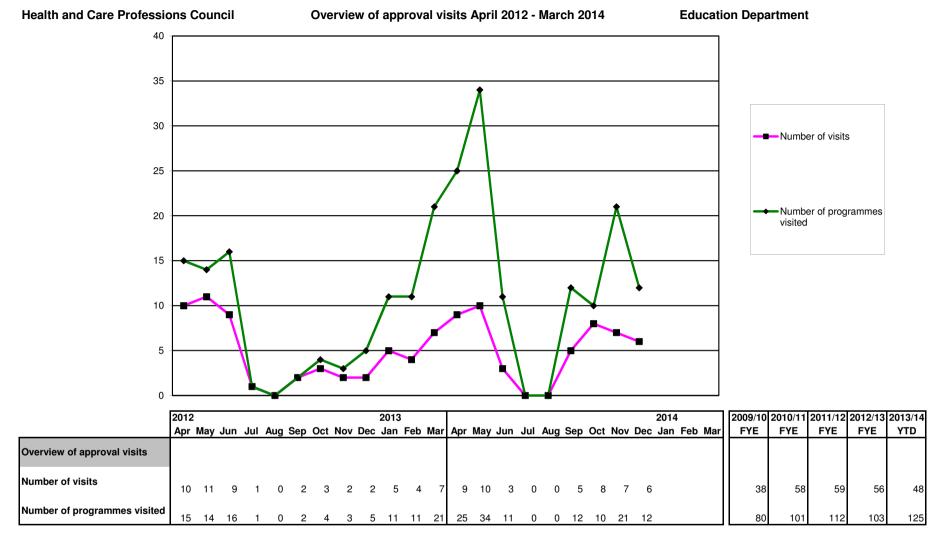
The timelines for the project have been amended through the project initiation phase. The project build phase now completes in April 2015. This is in part due to the complexity and scale of the build. It is also to ensure that the project team has sufficient time to test and feedback between cycles, with an appropriate amount of contingency included in the plan. The key phases of the project are currently:

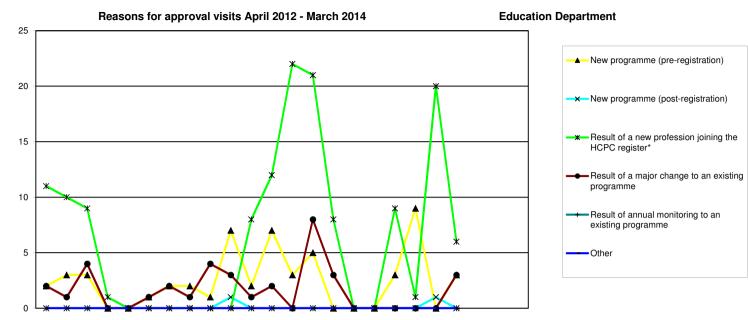
- 1. Project initiation January September 2013
- 2. Build and business change September January 2015
- 3. Deployment January 2015 April 2015
- 4. Close of project and business as usual April 2015

Employees

There have been no employee changes in the Department since the last Council meeting on 3 December 2013 and no further recruitment is planned for 2013-14. The total number of employees remains at 18. The Department is making arrangements for Abigail Gorringe's return from maternity leave at the beginning of March 2014.





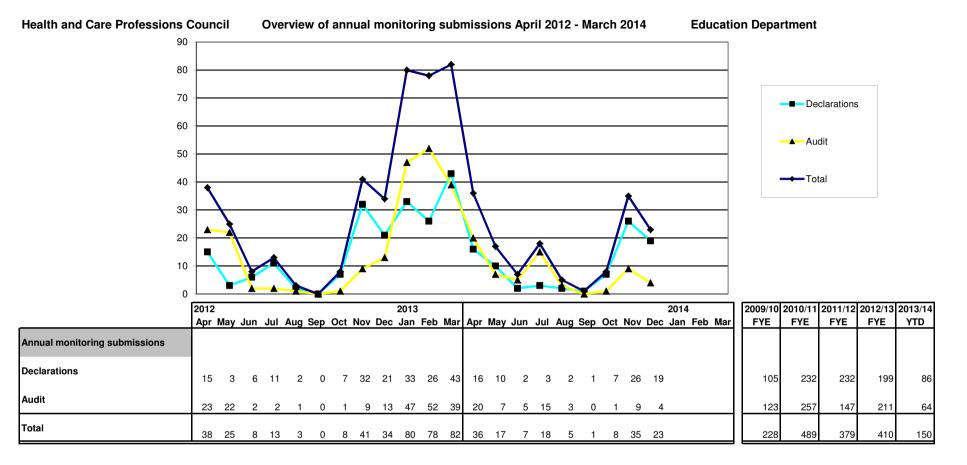


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Reason for programme visited																												
New programme (pre-registration)		2	3	3	0	0	1	2	2	1	7	2	7	3	5	0	0	0	3	9	0	3		25	29	17	30	23
New programme (post-registration)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0		1	C	2	: 1	1
Result of a new profession joining the HCPC register*	1	1 1	0	9	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	12	22	21	8	0	0	9	1	20	6		7	31	32	51	87
Result of a major change to an existing programme		2	1	4	0	0	1	2	1	4	3	1	2	0	8	3	0	0	0	0	0	3		42	37	57	21	14
Result of annual monitoring to an existing programme		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		3	4	2	. () O
Other		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		2	C	C	(0
Total	1	51	41	6	1	0	2	4	3	5	11	11	21	25	34	11	0	0	12	10	21	12		80	101	110	103	3 125

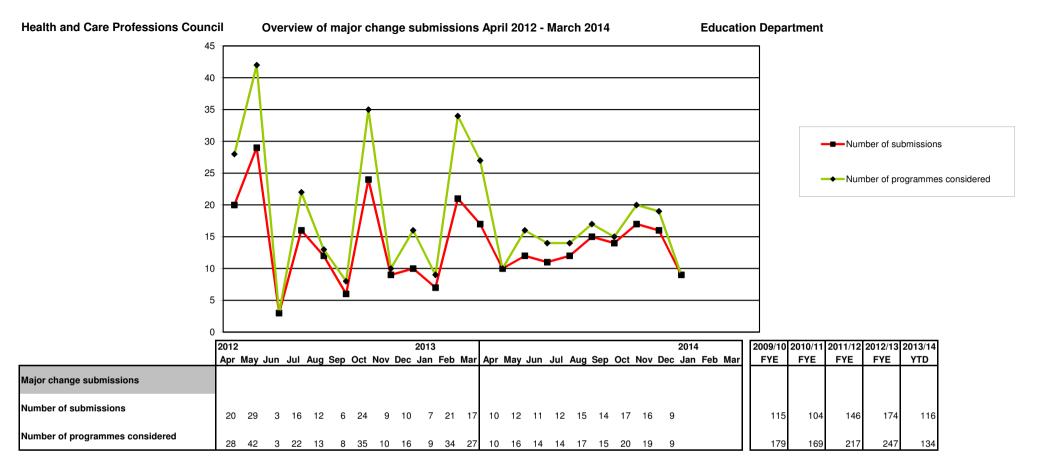
* - Practitioner psychologists July 2009 - July 2012

- Hearing Aid Dispensers April 2010 - July 2012

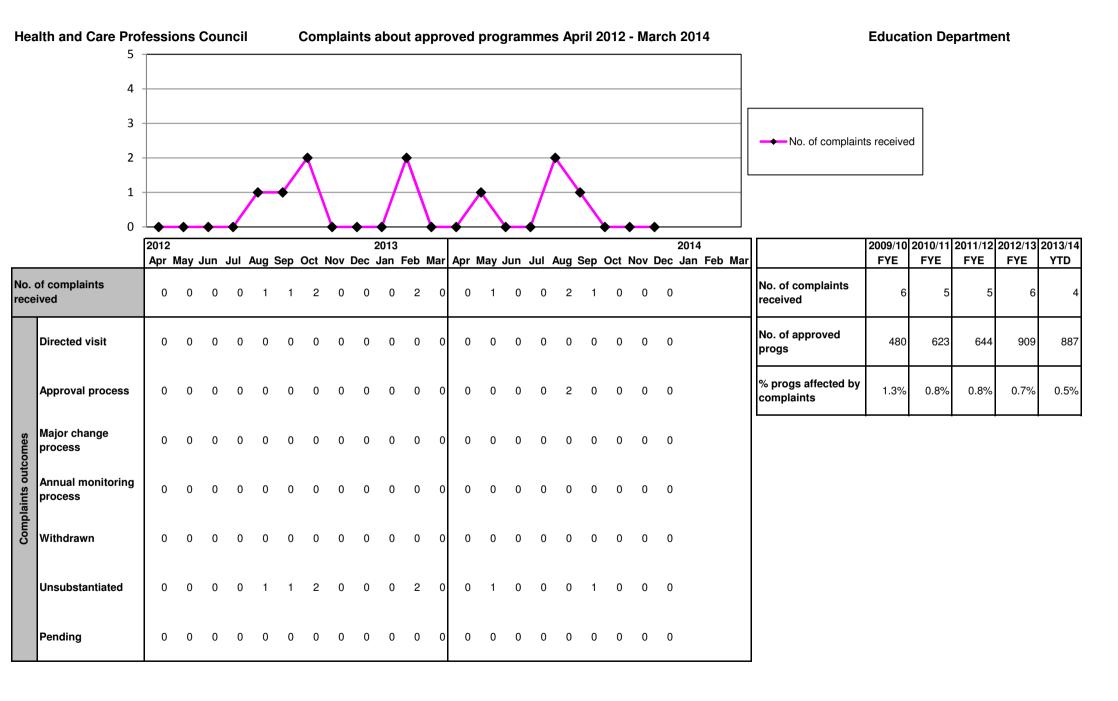
- Social workers in England August 2012 - July 2015



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