

Date: Thu, 23 Feb 2006 15:54:11 -0000
Subject: Statement of Common Purpose
Sender: Chris Sutcliffe <c.sutcliffe@qaa.ac.uk>

To members of the Department of Health Benchmarking Project Steering Group

Dear all

You will remember that the only uncompleted aspect of our work has been to finalise the Statement of Common Purpose which evolved from the Emerging Health Professions Framework that was agreed during the phase 1 Health Benchmarking. Our intention in preparing the Statement of Common Purpose was to make it inclusive to as many health professions as possible as well as to social care. The consultation that we undertook on the draft was overwhelmingly positive with the exception of serious concerns from the academic heads of social work within the higher education sector. Following discussion, we were of the view that it was important to take full account of these concerns and to do everything possible to develop a framework that crossed the health and social care interface. As agreed, on 28 June 2005 a sub-group of the steering group met with representatives from academic social work and the General Social Care Council to consider the response from the consultation and in part!

icular the issues raised by the academic social work community. Further work has been undertaken by the drafting sub-panel and the statement that we now have is acceptable to the academic social work community. We are also of the view that it takes account of the significant issues that were raised during the consultation.

I am therefore proposing that, unless I hear from you to the contrary, we will move to confirm the Statement of Common Purpose and publish it on the QAA website during the week commencing 20 March. It would also be my intention to submit to you the final report of this work which will include the recommendations that we made in relation to equity, diversity and the need for evaluation.

I would like in particular to thank Michael Preston-Shoot and Steve Trevellian for their tremendous work in enabling this framework to include social care. A huge debt of gratitude is also due to members of the drafting group and in particular Audrey Paterson, Sue Montague and David Skinner who has now moved on to other things. Lastly, thank you to all of you for your hard work and patience in what has been a longer process than any of us imagined.

Although this email has been sent from the QAA, my email address is r.m.pittilo@rgu.ac.uk.

Thank you all again.

Kind regards.

Professor R Michael Pittilo
Principal and Vice-Chancellor