# health & care professions council

# Visitors' report

Name of education provider	East London Mental Health Training Partnership
Validating body / Awarding body	Middlesex University
Programme name	Approved Mental Health Practitioner
Mode of delivery	Work based learning
Type of programme	Approved mental health professional
Date of visit	10 – 11 June 2014

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### **Executive summary**

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve educational programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us. We are a statutory regulator and our main aim is to protect the public. We currently regulate 16 professions. All of these professions have at least one professional title which is protected by law. This means that anyone using a protected title must be registered with us. The HCPC keep a register of health and care professionals who meet our standards for their training, professional skills, behaviour and health.

As well as approving educational programmes for people who want to join the Register or have an annotation on their Registration record, the HCPC also approve a small number of programmes which are not linked to HCPC Registration. These programmes are for the profession of approved mental health practitioners (AMHPs) (for social workers, mental health and learning disabilities nurses, occupational therapists and practitioner psychologists).

The HCPC criteria for approving AMHP programmes set out the systems and processes an education provider is expected to have in place to deliver an AMHP programme, as well as the competencies professionals must achieve on completing the programme.

The visitors' report which follows outlines the recommended outcome made by the visitors on the approval of the programme. The education provider has until 11 July 2014 to provide observations on this report. The report and any observations received will be considered by the Education and Training Committee (Committee) 2 July 2014. At this meeting, the Committee will accept the visitors' recommended outcome and approve the programme.

### Introduction

When the regulation of social workers in England transferred from the General Social Care Council (GSCC) to ourselves, we took responsibility for approving AMHP programmes in England. The Health and Social Care Act (2012) gives us powers to set criteria for approving AMHP programmes. A decision was made by the Education and Training Committee to visit all existing AMHP programmes. This visit is to assess the programmes against the criteria for approving AMHP programmes and professionals who complete it will be able to achieve the criteria for approved mental health professionals

This visit was an HCPC only visit. The education provider and validating body did not validate or review the programme at the visit and the professional body did not consider their accreditation of the programme. The education provider supplied an independent chair and secretary for the visit.

Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	David Abrahart (Approved mental health professional) Sheila Skelton (Approved mental
	health professional)
HCPC executive officer (in attendance)	Ruth Wood
Proposed student numbers	Maximum of 20 per cohort once a year
Proposed start date of programme approval	September 2014
Chair	Kay Caldwell (Middlesex University)
Secretary	Sabrina Barnett (Middlesex University)

#### Visit details

# Sources of evidence

Prior to the visit the HCPC reviewed the documentation detailed below, sent by the education provider:

	Yes	No	N/A
Programme specification	$\bowtie$		
Descriptions of the modules	$\boxtimes$		
Mapping document providing evidence of how the education provider has met the criteria for approving AMHP programmes	$\boxtimes$		
Practice placement handbook	$\square$		
Student handbook	$\bowtie$		
Curriculum vitae for relevant staff			
External examiners' reports from the last two years			

During the visit the HCPC saw the following groups or facilities:

	Yes	No	N/A
Senior managers of the education provider with responsibility for resources for the programme	$\boxtimes$		
Programme team	$\square$		
Placements providers and educators / mentors	$\square$		
Students	$\bowtie$		
Learning resources	$\square$		
Specialist teaching accommodation (eg specialist laboratories and teaching rooms)	$\boxtimes$		

### Recommended outcome

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets all of the criteria for approving AMHP programmes and professionals who complete it will be able to achieve the criteria for approved mental health professionals

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that the programme is approved.

The visitors did not set any conditions for the programme.

Conditions are requirements that the education provider must meet before the programme can be recommended for approval. Conditions are set when certain criteria have not been met or there is insufficient evidence of the criterion being met.

The visitors did not make any recommendations for the programme.

Recommendations are observations on the programme or education provider which do not need to be met before the programme is recommended for approval. Recommendations are normally set to encourage further enhancements to the programme and are normally set when it is felt that the particular criterion has been met at, or just above the threshold level.

David Abrahart Sheila Skelton