
Education and Training Committee

Minutes of the 62nd meeting of the Education and Training Committee held as follows:

Date: Thursday 20 November 2014

Time: 10:30 am

Venue: The Council Chamber, Health and Care Professions Council, Park House,
184 Kennington Park Road, London SE11 4BU

Members: Joy Tweed (Chair)
Elaine Buckley
Mary Clark-Glass
John Donaghy
Sheila Drayton
Graham Towl

In attendance:

Nicole Casey, Policy Manager
Anna Cleary, Communications Officer (Publishing)
Laura Coveney, Policy Officer
Liz Craig, PA to the Director of Education
Brendon Edmonds, Head of Educational Development
Abigail Gorringe, Director of Education
Michael Guthrie, Director of Policy and Standards
Louise Lake, Director of Council and Committee Services
Tracey Samuel-Smith, Education Manager
Edward Tynan, Policy Officer
Alex Urquhart, Education Officer
Anna van der Gaag, Chair of Council

Public Agenda – Part 1

Item 1 - Chair's welcome and introduction

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed the Committee and employees in attendance to the meeting. The Chair also welcomed observer Caroline Grant from the College of Occupational therapists.

Item 2 - Apologies for absence

- 2.1 There were no apologies for absence.

Item 3 - Approval of agenda

- 3.1 The Committee approved the agenda.

Item 4 - Declaration of members' interests

- 4.1 Members had no interests to declare in connection with the items on the agenda.

Item 5 - Minutes of the meeting of 11 September 2014 (ETC 31/14)

- 5.1 The Committee considered the minutes of the meeting held on 11 September 2014.
- 5.2 During discussion, it was noted that in its discussion about the level of entry to the Register for paramedics, the Committee had agreed that there was a good case in due course for considering increasing the level specified in the standards of education and training for this profession, but had decided that it was not necessary at this stage to make any in principle decisions about the specific level that should be set. It was noted that paragraph 8.4 was not particularly clear in reflecting the Committee's discussion and that the wording should be revisited to ensure clarity particularly for members of the public reading the minutes. It was agreed that the wording would be revised.
- 5.3 The minutes of the Education and Training Committee held on 11 September 2014 were agreed as a correct record subject to the Executive making the relevant amendment as agreed under 5.2.

Item 6 - Academy for Healthcare Science (AHCS) – approval of criteria for the recruitment and appointment of clinical science visitors (ETC 32/14)

- 6.1 The Committee received a paper for discussion/approval from the Executive.

- 6.2 The Committee noted that the AHCS had submitted major change notification forms in December 2013 detailing changes to programmes including the development of four new specialist curriculums, one being Clinical bioinformatics. It was noted that it had not been possible to progress the review of the Clinical bioinformatics curriculum as we had been unsuccessful in recruiting a registrant visitor with the relevant knowledge, skills and experience.
- 6.3 The paper was seeking approval for the criteria which will be used to allocate visitors to the assessment of the Clinical bioinformatics curriculum, for the AHCS approved programmes.
- 6.4 During discussion, the following points were made:-
- The programme would need to meet the existing SOP' for Clinical Scientists. However, when the SOP's are next reviewed in five years' time, it is possible that additional competencies may be required to reflect the evolution of clinical science programmes; and
 - The Academy had been kept up to date in terms of timescales.
- 6.5 The Committee agreed the criteria for the allocation of visitors to clinical science programmes provided as appendix one to this paper.

Item 7 - Outcomes of the consultation on Rules for professional indemnity (ETC 33/14)

- 7.1 The Committee received a paper for discussion/approval from the Executive
- 7.2 The Committee noted that the proposed Rules for professional indemnity were consulted on between 26 September 2014 and 31 October 2014. A range of stakeholders were informed about the consultation including professional bodies and employers, the consultation was advertised on our website, and a press release issued.
- 7.3 The Committee noted that the proposed Rules for professional indemnity received a very high approval rating overall among respondents. It was not proposed to make any changes to the proposed Rules as a result of the consultation.
- 7.4 During discussion the following points were made:-
- These Rules have changed slightly as a result of vetting by Department of Health lawyers and there was a possibility of further minor changes as a result of on-going vetting by Department of Health lawyers which should be completed prior to the Council's meeting in December 2014;

- That the consultation period was five weeks as opposed to the normal twelve week period and this was to ensure sufficient time for implementation;
- The Committee noted the ongoing stakeholder engagement work undertaken in relation to the requirement for registrants to have an appropriate professional indemnity arrangement in place as a condition of registration and noted that this work was ongoing;
- It was noted that any registrant going through the renewal process who was not currently employed would be able to sign a declaration to the effect that they understood the requirement to have an appropriate professional indemnity arrangement and would have an arrangement in place when returning to practise.

7.5 The Committee:-

- (i) agreed and recommended to the Council the proposed Rules for professional indemnity (subject to minor editing amendments and formal legal scrutiny); and
- (ii) agreed and recommended to the Council the text of the consultation analysis document (subject to minor editing amendments and formal legal scrutiny).

Public Agenda – Part 2

Item 8 - Policy and Standards – update and activities in 2015-2016 (ETC 34/14)

- 8.1 The Committee received a paper for discussion/approval from the Executive
- 8.2 The Committee received a verbal update from the Director of Policy and Standards which outlined the progress made by the Department against the current workplan. The Director of Policy and Standards outlined the priorities for 2015/16 which he noted would be the subject of a further paper at the March 2015 meeting of the Council.
- 8.3 The Committee noted the update.

Item 9 - Education – update and activities in 2015-2016 (ETC 35/14)

- 9.1 The Committee received a paper for discussion/approval from the Executive
- 9.2 The Committee received a verbal update from the Director of Education which outlined the progress made by the Department against the current workplan. The Director of Education outlined the priorities for 2015/16 which she noted

would be the subject of a further paper at the March 2015 meeting of the Council.

9.3 The Committee noted the update.

Item 10 – Any other business

10.1 There were no additional items for consideration that day.

Item 11 – Date and time of next meeting

11.1 The Committee noted the date of the next meeting as follows:-
10.30am – Thursday 5 March 2015.

Chair Joy Tweed

Date 05/03/2015