

Visitors' report

Name of education provider	Anglia Ruskin University
Programme name	PG Cert Mental Health Practice (Approved Mental Health Professional)
Mode of delivery	Part time
Type of programme	Approved mental health professional
Date of visit	17 – 18 March 2015

Contents

Executive summary	2
Introduction.....	3
Visit details	3
Sources of evidence	4
Recommended outcome	5
Conditions.....	6

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. This recommended outcome was accepted by the Education and Training Committee (Committee) on 30 June 2015. At this meeting, the programme was approved. This means that the education provider has met the condition(s) outlined in this report and that the programme meets our criteria for approving AMHP programmes and professionals who complete it will be able to achieve the criteria for approved mental health professionals. The programme is now granted open ended approval, subject to satisfactory monitoring.

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 part of a joint event. The education provider validated the programme. The education provider and the HCPC formed a joint panel, with an independent chair and secretary, supplied by the education provider. Whilst the joint panel participated in collaborative scrutiny of the programme and dialogue throughout the visit; this report covers the HCPC's recommendations on the programme only. As an independent regulatory body, the HCPC's recommended outcome is independent and impartial and based solely on the criteria for approving approved mental health professional (AMHP) programmes. A separate report, produced by the education provider outlines their decisions on the programme's status.

Visit details

Name and role of HCPC visitors	Sheila Skelton (Approved mental health professional) Christine Stogdon (Approved mental health professional) Joanne Watchman (Lay visitor)
HCPC executive officer (in attendance)	Abdur Razzaq
Proposed student numbers	20 per cohort once a year
Proposed start date of programme approval	September 2015
Chair	Toby Carter (Anglia Ruskin University)
Secretary	Joanne Wood (Anglia Ruskin University)
Members of the joint panel	Charlie Nevison (Internal Panel Member) Philip Anthony (External Panel Member) Carolanne Bernard (Student Internal Panel Member)

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Descriptions of the modules	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mapping document providing evidence of how the education provider has met the criteria for approving AMHP programmes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Practice placement handbook	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student handbook	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Curriculum vitae for relevant staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
External examiners' reports from the last two years	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Programme team	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Placements providers and educators / mentors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Students	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Service users and carers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Learning resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Specialist teaching accommodation (eg specialist laboratories and teaching rooms)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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 a number of conditions are set on the programme, all of which must be met before the programme can be approved.

The visitors agreed that 35 of the criterion have been met and that conditions should be set on the remaining 15 criteria.

Conditions are requirements that the education provider must meet before the programme can be approved. 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 can be approved. Recommendations are made to encourage further enhancements to the programme, normally when it is felt that the particular criterion has been met at, or just above the threshold level.

Conditions

A.1 The admissions procedures must give both the applicant and the education provider the information they require to make an informed choice about whether to take up or make an offer of a place on a programme

Condition: The education provider must provide further evidence to demonstrate that the admissions materials are clear and provide applicants with the information they require to make an informed choice about whether to take up an offer of a place on the programme.

Reason: In the documentation submitted prior to the visit, the visitors noted that the education provider has detailed the admission procedures and the requirements for admission to the programme. However, during the meeting with senior staff, visitors learnt that this programme is open for self-funding students. The visitors were unclear where in the documentation potential students will have information about self-funding arrangements.

The visitors also learnt during the visit and from the documentation provided prior to the visit that this programme is currently delivered at Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust's (CPFT) premises. However, there are plans to deliver this programme with partners in Chelmsford and Essex from September 2015. Furthermore, the programme team highlighted that the number of partners may increase subject to demand for this programme. The visitors were satisfied with the information provided to potential applicants on the current arrangements with CPFT. However, because each partner organisation will have different teaching facilities and placement arrangements, the visitors were unable to determine how potential students will be informed about the nature of these teaching and placement arrangements. The visitors therefore require further evidence to demonstrate that the admissions materials are clear and provide applicants with the information they require to make an informed choice about whether to take up an offer of a place on the programme.

B.1 The programme must have a secure place in the education provider's business plan

Condition: The education provider must provide further evidence to show that the education provider is committed to provide enough resources to deliver this programme at different partner organisations' premises.

Reason: During the visit and from the documentation provided prior to the visit, visitors learnt that this programme is currently delivered at Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust (CPFT) premises. However, there are plans to deliver this programme with partners in Chelmsford and Essex from September 2015. Furthermore, the programme team highlighted that the number of partners may increase subject to demand for this programme. The visitors were satisfied with the current resourcing arrangements for the programme at CPFT. However, because each partner organisation will have different teaching facilities and placement arrangements, the visitors were unable to determine how the education provider will ensure the education provider is committed to providing enough resources to deliver the programme at different partner organisations' premises. This includes how the education provider is limiting any risks or threats to deliver the programme and there is a future for the programme. Therefore, visitors will need further evidence to show their

commitment to this programme's delivery across different partner organisations and consequently, how this standard is met.

B.2 The programme must be effectively managed

Condition: The education provider must provide further evidence to show that the partnership arrangements between the education provider and the partner organisations have been finalised and agreed.

Reason: During the visit and from the documentation provided prior to the visit, visitors learnt that this programme is currently delivered at Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust (CPFT) premises. However, there are plans to deliver this programme with partners in Chelmsford and Essex from September 2015. Furthermore, the programme team highlighted that the number of partners may increase subject to demand for this programme. The visitors were happy with current arrangements at CPFT. However, because each partner organisation will have different teaching facilities and placement arrangements, the visitors were unable to determine how this programme is effectively managed. In future, if the education provider agrees a partnership with a new partner organisation to deliver the theory part of the programme. For example, where an employer employs some teaching staff as well as the practice placement educators. When it happens, the education provider should inform HCPC through the major change process. Visitors will require to see the partnership agreements to be sure that there are clear procedures to deal with any problems and procedures are clearly written into partnership agreement.

The visitors also noted in the documentation provided, that there are proposed partnership arrangements between the education provider and the partner organisations articulating the responsibilities each partner has in the effective delivery of the programme. However, in the senior team meeting it was discussed that there are new partner organisations in collaborative agreements and that the education provider will update partnership agreements with its partner organisations to reflect the changes and include new partner organisations. The visitors were unsure of the current status of the agreements and were therefore unable to identify how the arrangements will ensure that this programme is effectively managed. The visitors will require further evidence to show these partnership agreements are finalised, signed and include all partner organisations, to determine how the programme meets this SET.

B.3 The programme must have regular monitoring and evaluation systems in place

Condition: The education provider must provide further information to outline the annual monitoring requirements and reports to demonstrate how the programme team evaluate the programme's effectiveness.

Reason: During the visit, visitors were given annual report for this programme. Visitors noted that the annual monitoring report mentioned this programme implicitly and was based on the whole department including other programmes. During the meeting with the programme, the visitors learnt that education provider will change the annual monitoring requirements and reports to ensure the programme team evaluate the programme's effectiveness. The programme team also mentioned that the current annual report template does not report on this programme explicitly to provide

evidence how this programme is monitored and evaluated. Therefore, the visitors will require further evidence of monitoring and evaluation systems in place for this programme to ensure this standard is met.

B.8 The resources to support student learning in all settings must be effectively used

Condition: The education provider must provide further evidence to demonstrate that the resources to support students learning in all settings are effectively used at Chelmsford and Essex partner organisations.

Reason: During the visit and from the documentation provided prior to the visit, visitors learnt that this programme is currently delivered at Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust (CPFT) premises. However, there are plans to deliver this programme with partners in Chelmsford and Essex from September 2015. Furthermore, the programme team highlighted that the number of partners may increase subject to demand for this programme. The visitors were happy with current arrangements at CPFT. However, because each partner organisation will have different teaching facilities and placement arrangements, the visitors were unable to determine how the resources to support students learning in all settings are effectively used. The visitors were unable to determine how students will have access to resources at each partner organisation, including how resources such as buildings equipment and materials are used both in academic and placements settings. Therefore, visitors require further evidence of how resources in place at Chelmsford and Essex partner organisations will support student learning in all settings, and are effectively used.

B.8 The resources to support student learning in all settings must be effectively used

Condition: The education provider must submit programme documentation that has been revised to meet the conditions set as a result of this validation event.

Reason: Through discussion at the visit, and from the final conclusions of the internal validation panel it was clear revisions will be made to programme documentation to meet conditions set by the internal panel. The visitors consider programme documentation that students routinely refer to as important resources to support student learning. In particular, the conditions set referred to amendments to module descriptors, the programme specification document and the student handbook. To ensure the programme meets this standard the visitors need to review the revised documents to ensure the resources to support student learning are effectively used. Therefore the visitors require the education provider to submit the revised programme documentation the students routinely refer to.

B.9 The resources to support student learning in all settings must effectively support the required learning and teaching activities of the programme

Condition: The education provider must provide further evidence of the monitoring mechanisms used to assess the suitability of resources at partner organisations including academic premises and placement settings.

Reason: During the visit and from the documentation provided prior to the visit, visitors learnt that this programme is currently delivered at Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust (CPFT) premises. However, there are plans to deliver this programme with partners in Chelmsford and Essex from September 2015. Furthermore, the programme team highlighted that the number of partners may increase subject to demand for this programme. The visitors were happy with current arrangements at CPFT. However, because each partner organisation will have different teaching facilities and placement arrangements, the visitors were unable to determine how resources will be available and appropriate for the delivery of the programme at Chelmsford and Essex partner organisations. Also, if the education provider agrees a partnership with a new partner organisation to deliver the theory part of the programme, how the education provider will ensure there are resources available and appropriate to support student learning. Therefore, visitors require further evidence to show monitoring mechanisms used to assess the suitability of resources in partner organisations including academic premises and placement settings.

B.10 The learning resources, including IT facilities, must be appropriate to the curriculum and must be readily available to students and staff

Condition: The education provider must submit further evidence to clearly articulate the mechanisms which will be in place to ensure that IT resources are available and are appropriate at partner organisations.

Reason: During the visit and from the documentation provided prior to the visit, visitors learnt that this programme is currently delivered at Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust (CPFT) premises. However, there are plans to deliver this programme with partners in Chelmsford and Essex from September 2015. Furthermore, the programme team highlighted that the number of partners may increase subject to demand for this programme. The visitors were happy with current arrangements at CPFT. However, because each partner organisation will have different teaching facilities and placement arrangements, the visitors were unable to determine how the learning resources are appropriate and readily available to students and staff. The visitors also did not see any facilities at Chelmsford and Essex partner organisations during the approval visit. Therefore, visitors will need further evidence regarding the mechanisms which will be in place to ensure that resources including IT resources are available and are appropriate at partner organisations. This conditions is linked to conditions placed on B 8 and B 9.

B.11 There must be adequate and accessible facilities to support the welfare and wellbeing of students in all settings

Condition: The education provider must provide further evidence to demonstrate that there are mechanisms in place to ensure adequate and accessible facilities to support the welfare and wellbeing of students in all settings at partner organisations.

Reason: During the visit and from the documentation provided prior to the visit, visitors learnt that this programme is currently delivered at Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust (CPFT) premises. However, there are plans to deliver this programme with partners in Chelmsford and Essex from September 2015. Furthermore, the programme team highlighted that the number of partners may increase subject to demand for this programme. The visitors were happy with current

arrangements at CPFT. However, because each partner organisation will have different teaching facilities and placement arrangements, the visitors were unable to determine how the facilities available for student support are adequate and accessible at Chelmsford and Essex partner organisations. Furthermore, if the education provider agrees a partnership with a new partner organisation to deliver the theory part of the programme, how the education provider will ensure support facilities in place are adequate and accessible. Therefore, visitors require further evidence to demonstrate that there are mechanisms in place to ensure adequate and accessible facilities to support the welfare and wellbeing of students in all settings at partner organisations.

B.12 There must be a system of academic and pastoral student support in place

Condition: The education provider must provide further evidence to confirm that partner organisations will provide academic and pastoral student support.

Reason: During the visit and from the documentation provided prior to the visit, visitors learnt that this programme is currently delivered at Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust (CPFT) premises. However, there are plans to deliver this programme with partners in Chelmsford and Essex from September 2015. Furthermore, the programme team highlighted that the number of partners may increase subject to demand for this programme. The education provider has a 'personal tutor' system in place and visitors were happy with current arrangements at CPFT. However, because each partner organisation will have different teaching facilities and placement arrangements, the visitors were unable to determine how at Chelmsford and Essex, there will be academic and pastoral support for students. Therefore, visitors require further evidence to demonstrate that partner organisations will provide academic and pastoral student support in all settings.

B.15 Service users and carers must be involved in the programme

Condition: The education provider must submit further evidence regarding the plans for continued service user and carer involvement within the programme.

Reason: From the documentation provided, the visitors could not determine the exact nature of service users and carers' involvement in the programme. Discussion at the visit indicated there was service users and carers' involvement in this programme in a number of ways. For example, service users and carers' involvement in the admission process. However, from the discussions with the programme team it was clear that formal future plans have yet to be finalised to involve service users and carers in the programme. It was indicated by the service users and carers that there are plans for their further involvement in the programme, but the programme team provided limited detail about how this will work. The visitors were unable to determine from the discussion and the documentation provided that a plan is in place for how service users and carers will continue to be involved in the programme. In order to determine that this standard is met the visitors require further evidence demonstrating the plans for future service user and carer involvement.

D.2 The number, duration and range of practice placements must be appropriate to support the delivery of the programme and the achievement of the learning outcomes

Condition: The education provider must provide further evidence that the number, duration and range of practice placements required in partner organisations will be appropriate and enable achievement of the learning outcomes.

Reason: During the visit and from the documentation provided prior to the visit, visitors learnt that this programme is currently delivered at Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust (CPFT) premises. However, there are plans to deliver this programme with partners in Chelmsford and Essex from September 2015. Furthermore, the programme team highlighted that the number of partners may increase subject to demand for this programme. The visitors were happy with current arrangements at CPFT. However, because each partner organisation will have different teaching facilities and placement arrangements, the visitors were unable to determine the details of practice placements at Chelmsford and Essex. Also, if the education provider agrees a partnership with a new partner organisation to deliver the programme at their premises, then how the education provider will ensure practice placements are appropriate to support the delivery of the programme. Therefore, visitors will require further information about practice placements arrangements at partner organisations including the number, range and duration of these placements to ensure these are appropriate and support the achievement of programme's learning outcomes.

D.6 There must be an adequate number of appropriately qualified and experienced staff at the practice placement setting

Condition: The education provider must provide further evidence to clearly articulate the mechanisms which will be in place to ensure there is an adequate number of appropriately qualified and experienced staff at each practice placement provider.

Reason: During the visit and from the documentation provided prior to the visit, visitors learnt that this programme is currently delivered at Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust (CPFT) premises. However, there are plans to deliver this programme with partners in Chelmsford and Essex. Furthermore, the programme team highlighted that the number of partners may increase subject to demand for this programme. The visitors were happy with current arrangements at CPFT. However, because each partner organisation will have different teaching facilities and placement arrangements, the visitors were unable to determine how the education provider will ensure there are adequate numbers of appropriately qualified staff at partner organisations. Therefore, visitors will require further evidence to show mechanisms will be in place to ensure there is an adequate number of appropriately qualified and experienced staff at each practice placement provider.

D.7 Practice placement educators must have relevant knowledge, skills and experience

Condition: The education provider must provide further evidence to clearly articulate the mechanisms which will be in place to ensure that placement educators have relevant knowledge, skills and experience.

Reason: During the visit and from the documentation provided prior to the visit, visitors learnt that this programme is currently delivered at Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust (CPFT) premises. However, there are plans to deliver this programme with partners in Chelmsford and Essex. Furthermore, the

programme team highlighted that the number of partners may increase subject to demand for this programme. The visitors were happy with current arrangements at CPFT. However, because each partner organisation will have different teaching facilities at their premises and placement arrangements, the visitors were unable to determine how the education provider will ensure placement educators at Chelmsford and Essex have the relevant knowledge, skills and experience. Therefore, visitors will need further evidence to demonstrate mechanisms are in place to ensure that placement educators have relevant knowledge, skills and experience.

D.8 Practice placement educators must undertake appropriate practice placement educator training

Condition: The education provider must provide further evidence to clearly articulate the mechanisms in place ensure practice placement educators receive appropriate training.

Reason: From the documentation provided prior to the visit, visitors noted that the education provider offers regular workshops for all practice educators and have an expectation about their attendance and involvement set out in the joint working agreement. However, the visitors could not find the details of these workshops including content covering specific areas for this programme. During the meeting with programme team, it was agreed that the education provider will provide further details of these workshops. Therefore, visitors need further evidence to demonstrate how mechanisms in place ensure practice placement educators receive appropriate training.

D.10 There must be regular and effective collaboration between the education provider and the practice placement provider

Condition: The education provider must provide further evidence to clearly articulate the mechanisms which are in place to ensure that there is regular and effective collaboration between the education provider and all practice placement providers.

Reason: From the documentation provided prior to the visit, visitors noted the education provider's statement in the mapping document: "We provide various workshops for practice educators across our campuses and plan to extend this opportunity for AMHP practice educators. We plan to hold on-site supervisor groups and training which will allow them to feedback any comments or concerns that they have." The visitors could not determine how the education provider will plan these regular meetings between themselves and practice placement providers, and ensure they enable effective collaboration. During the programme team meeting, the visitors were assured that the programme team will provide details of the plan to organise these meetings. Therefore, visitors will need evidence to show the mechanisms which are in place to ensure that there is regular and effective collaboration between the education provider and all practice placement providers.

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