health & care professions council

Visitors' report

Name of education provider	Outreach Rescue Medic Skills
Programme name	Hazardous Environment Medicine Paramedic Award
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant part of the HCPC Register	Paramedic
Date of visit	28 October 2016

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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 the title 'paramedic' 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.

The visitors' report which follows outlines the recommended outcome made by the visitors on the ongoing approval of the programme at the education provider. This recommended outcome was accepted by the Education and Training Committee (Committee) on 24 November 2016. At this meeting, the Committee confirmed the ongoing approval of the programme. This means that the programme meets our standards of education and training (SETs) and ensures that those who complete it meet our standards of proficiency (SOPs) for their part of the Register. The programme is now granted open ended approval, subject to satisfactory monitoring.

Introduction

The HCPC visited the programme at the education provider to consider issues raised by the 2015-16 annual monitoring process. The issues raised by annual monitoring affected the following standards - programme management and resources. The programme was already approved by the HCPC and this visit assessed whether the programme continued to meet the standards of education and training (SETs) and continued to ensure that those who complete the programme meet the standards of proficiency (SOPs) for their part of the Register.

This visit was an HCPC only visit. The education provider 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 and role of HCPC visitors	Glyn Harding (Paramedic)		
	Simon Mundie (Lay visitor)		
	David Whitmore (Paramedic)		
HCPC executive officer (in attendance)	Alex Urquhart		
Proposed student numbers	10 per cohort, four cohorts per year		
First approved intake	September 2012		
Effective date that programme approval reconfirmed from	December 2016		
Chair	John Griffihs (Independent)		
Secretary	Haf Thomas (Outreach Rescue Medic Skills)		

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	\square		
Descriptions of the modules	\square		
Mapping document providing evidence of how the education provider has met the SETs	\boxtimes		
Mapping document providing evidence of how the education provider has met the SOPs			\boxtimes
Practice placement handbook	\square		
Student handbook	\square		
Curriculum vitae for relevant staff	\square		
External examiners' reports from the last two years	\square		

The HCPC did not review the mapping document providing evidence of how the education provider has met the SOPs as this was a directed visit, the visitors were not required to scrutinise how the programme meets the SOPs.

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	\boxtimes		
Placements providers and educators / mentors			\boxtimes
Students			\square
Service users and carers	\square		
Learning resources	\boxtimes		
Specialist teaching accommodation (eg specialist laboratories and teaching rooms)	\boxtimes		

The HCPC did not meet with the students and the practice placement providers and educators as the issues raised by the previous year's annual monitoring process did not concern the students or the practice placement providers and educators, so there was no requirement to meet with them.

Recommended outcome

To recommend a programme for ongoing approval, the visitors must be satisfied that the programme meets all of the standards of education and training (SETs) and that those who complete the programme meet our standards of proficiency (SOPs) for the relevant part of the Register.

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that the ongoing approval of the programme is reconfirmed.

The visitors did not set any conditions for the programme.

Conditions are requirements that the education provider must meet before the programme can have its ongoing approval reconfirmed. Conditions are set when certain standards of education and training have not been met or there is insufficient evidence of the standard 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 can have its ongoing approval reconfirmed. Recommendations are made to encourage further enhancements to the programme, normally when it is felt that the particular standard of education and training has been met at, or just above the threshold level.

Glyn Harding Simon Mundie David Whitmore