

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE
22 SEPTEMBER 2011
PUBLIC SESSION
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Classification	Public
Purpose	To note
Issues	This paper reports on the work undertaken by the Professional Standards department and any matters arising since the last report to the Education Committee dated 14 June 2011.
Recommendation	The Committee is asked to note the report.
Financial & Resourcing Implications	None arising directly from this paper.
Equality & Diversity Implications	None arising from this paper.
Communications Implications	<p>Meeting with the General Medical Council (GMC) will feed into implementation strategy for GOsC projects.</p> <p>Revalidation meetings are vital to extend the skills to complete the Pilot and therefore feedback to the GOsC.</p> <p>External meetings are important to benchmark against other organisations and share experiences.</p>
Annexes	None.

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Background

1. This paper reports on the work undertaken by the Professional Standards Department and any matters arising since the last report to the Education Committee dated 14 June 2011.

Discussion

Healthcare Organisations

2. On 16 June 2011 the Head of Professional Standards attended an Education Inter-Regulatory meeting. Attendees include all the statutory regulators, the General Social Care Council (GSCC), the Centre for the Advancement of Interprofessional Education (CAIPE), Skills for Health (SfH) and the Health Education Academy (HEA). All attendees provided an update and there was also an interesting session about Quality Assurance – making data meaningful and government plans for professional education and regulation.
3. On 17 June 2011 the GOsC held a Regional Communications Network meeting with the different Osteopathic Societies. Key agenda items included Student Fitness to Practise, Revalidation and the Preparedness to Practise research and the Osteopathic Practice Standards. The Head of Professional Standards, the Professional Standards Manager and the Regulation Manager, Caitrian Guthrie, Assessment Team Leader and Amanda Silver and Lee Oliver from KPMG all facilitated sessions to make this a much more interactive session than previously. This meant that these osteopaths were able to directly feedback into our Student Fitness to Practise consultation and influence the pilot the development
4. On 4 July 2011 the Head of Professional Standards attended an Inter-Regulatory meeting on Revalidation. All regulators provided an update on the revalidation within their profession. The group provides a useful forum to share progress and discuss issues about Revalidation and CPD.
5. On 7 and 8 July 2011 the Head of Professional Standards attended a meeting of The Council on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation (CLEAR) International Conference on Professional and Occupational Regulation. Attendees included the HPC, CHRE, London School of Economics, Health and other regulators from Canada, France, USA and Australia together with representatives from professional bodies. Some of the topics discussed were:
 - The importance of the evidence base for regulation, and how can regulators measure and demonstrate this in the same way that registrants are asked to demonstrate competence;
 - The importance of implementation (and communication) of activities to close the policy development loop and to start generating outcomes;

- How to define the optimum place for regulatory activities, and how to show the benefit of joined up regulation or ensure that data moves freely between different organisations to contributed to effective regulation.
6. On 11 July 2011 the Head of Professional Standards attended a meeting with Jo Mullin, the Director of Education at the College of Optometrists. Topics discussed included CPD and Revalidation.
 7. On 29 July 2011, the Chief Executive and the Head of Professional Standards attended the Council for Healthcare Regulatory Excellence (CHRE) Seminar on Operational Excellence. The seminar was to focus on:
 - To foster understanding of the other regulators' operational processes and encourage shared learning and insight;
 - To understand the different ways that the organisations interface with each other and discuss how successfully the boundaries are being managed
 - To discuss way to improve the management of boundaries in future and discuss the scope for collaborative working
 - To recognise and identify the areas of work where process is similar and promote learning from best practice
 8. On 2 August 2011, the Professional Standards Manager met with Dr John Patterson to discuss the content for the Osteopathic Educational Institutions Good Practice meeting in September 2011

Revalidation

9. The Revalidation Pilot Workshops have been taking place in London (2 September), Winchester (3 September), Taunton (4 September), Oxford (9 September), Cardiff (10 September), Nottingham (11 September), Gatwick (17 September) and Chester (18 September). These have all been attended by usually two members of staff from the Professional Standards and Communications department. The day has been introduced by either the Chief Executive, Head of Professional Standards or the Professional Standards Manager who have supported Caitrian Guthrie in the delivery of the workshops.
10. On 2 August 2011 the Head of Professional Standards met with Michael Watson of the BOA, and Greg Sharp, osteopath to discuss the work on 'Any Qualified Provider'. We have been facilitating a dialogue between the BOA and relevant members of the Department of Health policy team working on this initiative to ensure that there is osteopathic input into the qualification requirements.
11. On 5 September 2011, The Professional Standards Manager and the Head of Communications met with Jo Ackbar of the Communications team at the GMC to

discuss implementation strategies for key projects and share knowledge. The GMC was particularly interested in the regional network the GOsC has in place, the development of Moodle and the Code of Practice DVD presentations. Suggestions from the GMC include the use of Twitter, the use of case presentation as a basis for discussion and the potential development of CPD.

Project updates

12. All other project updates are provided elsewhere on this agenda.

Recommendation

13. The Education Committee is asked to note the report and raise any questions by email with the Head of Professional Standards: fbrowne@osteopathy.org.uk.