

**Education Committee
15 December 2011
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 22 September 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	External meetings are important to learn from and share progress with other organisations.
Annexes	Annex A - Briefing sheet on the changes proposed by Liberating the NHS and the Health and Social Care Bill

Author: Joy Bolt
November 2011

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 22 September 2011.

Discussion

Healthcare Organisations

2. On 26 September 2011 the Head of Professional Standards and the Principal of the British School of Osteopaths attended a Council for Healthcare Regulatory Excellence (CHRE) Seminar. It provided an opportunity for osteopathy to feed into the development of Health Education England. A briefing sheet about the changes proposed by Liberating the NHS and the Health and Social Care Bill, including Health Education England are attached at Annex A for information.
3. On 5 October 2011 the Chief Executive and the Head of Professional Standards attended a meeting convened by the BOA with osteopaths involved in NHS practice and a representative from COEI to develop a joint response on the National Quality Board consultations about clinical guidelines. Further detail about how this fits in the changes proposed in the Health and Social Care Bill is attached at Annex A.
4. On 5 October 2011 the Head of Professional Standards and the Professional Standards Manager attended a meeting with Elizabeth Howkins and Hugh Barr from the Centre for the Advancement of Interprofessional Education (CAIPE) to discuss inter-professional learning at different stages of the educational process and the CPD Discussion Paper. The purpose of the meeting was to inform CAIPE about osteopathy and its place in the health landscape and to seek advice about interprofessional learning. CAIPE have since responded to our CPD Discussion paper.
5. On 6 October 2011 the Head of Professional Standards and the Professional Standards Manager attended a meeting with Helen Coles (Head of Professional Standards) and Haydn Williams (Head of Professional Ethics & Legal Services) from the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP). The meeting was to discuss the Osteopathic Practice Standards and methods of implementation.
6. On 25 October 2011 the Professional Standards Manager attended a Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education meeting on Risk Based Approaches for Quality Assurance for Professional and Statutory Regulatory Bodies (PSRB). Topics covered included:

- The UKIPG responses to the HE White Paper and the green paper on the Recognition of Professional Qualifications (RPQ) Directive;
 - A presentation on the Governments steer towards a risk-based approach for future institutional reviews in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, conducted by the QAA on behalf of HEFCE;
 - A presentation by the General Social Care Council on its new 'Risk-based Approach to Review'.
7. On 3 November 2011 the Head of Professional Standards attended a CHRE Research Meeting. The meeting was hosted by Christine Braithwaite and Douglas Bilton of CHRE, and focused on the follow up to Dr Oliver Quick's Scoping Study on the effects of health professional regulation on those regulated. The purpose of the meeting was to:
- Share the findings of this and other related research
 - Determine next steps about how CHRE might frame a further research question about the effectiveness of regulation
8. It was very helpful to hear about a number of pieces of work which are helping to develop the picture of the effectiveness of health professional regulation in different contexts. A further meeting is planned during 2012.
9. On 7 November 2011 the Head of Professional Standards attended seminar about professionalism research commissioned by the Health Professions Council in relation to three professions. The main finding was about the situational context of professionalism and also the importance of values and cultures, individuals and colleagues not simply standards set by organisations. Interestingly this is consistent with the approach we are taking in our work and particularly, our revalidation pilot. We have also circulated the findings of this research to the BOA who are also exploring professional values.
10. On 30 November 2011 the Head of Professional Standards attended a meeting with Paula Robblee from the General Medical Council about the GMC CPD Discussion paper.
11. On 30 November 2011 the Head of Professional Standards attended an Education Inter-regulatory group meeting. Items on the agenda included CPD, governance reviews and quality assurance. It was interesting to note that the GMC are engaging much more with local groups of doctors to encourage responses to consultations. The GDC has recently had a very large response (over 6000 responses) to their CPD consultation. The NMC are exploring the development of more local relationships with educational providers to encourage a climate of continuous enhancement.

12. On 9 December 2011 the Head of Professional Standards will be attending a meeting at the Law Commission on registration, education and standards. This will feed into the thinking of the Law Commission about proposals for the regulation of healthcare professionals.

Revalidation

13. The final Revalidation Pilot Workshops took place in Ipswich (23 September), London (24 September), Leeds (25 September), London Heathrow (30 September), London (1 October), Belfast (1 October) and Stirling (2 October). These were all been attended by usually two members of staff from the Professional Standards and Communications department. The day was introduced by the Chief Executive, Head of Professional Standards or the Professional Standards Manager who have supported Caitrian Guthrie in the delivery of the workshops.
14. On 28 November 2011 the Head of Professional Standards and the Professional Standards Manager attended a meeting with Michelle McCorry of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland (PSNI) to discuss Revalidation and CPD. The meeting was an opportunity to discuss policy and project implementation and scoping issues.
15. On 29 November 2011 the Head of Professional Standards attended an Inter-regulatory group meeting on Revalidation. The Head of Professional Standards presented to the group on the purpose and methods of revalidation the types of differences that there might be in different environments. The presentation also focussed on the work of the General Osteopathic Council in relation to continuing fitness to practise encompassing both our revalidation pilot and CPD review.

Project updates

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

Recommendation

17. 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.