

Draft Review Specification for Plymouth Marjon University – Renewal of Recognition of Recognised Qualification Review

27 February 2019

Background

1. Plymouth Marjon University (Marjon) currently provides the following qualification which is due to expire on 31 January 2020: Master in Osteopathic medicine qualifications – full time and part time.
2. Marjon wishes to renew this qualification. A copy of the current Recognised Qualification award and the last Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) Report is attached for information.

QAA Review

3. The GOsC requests that the QAA schedules a monitoring review of the following qualifications:
 - a. Master in Osteopathic Medicine (full time)
 - b. Master in Osteopathic Medicine (part time)
4. The aim of the GOsC Quality Assurance process is to:
 - Put patient safety and public protection at the heart of all activities
 - Ensure that graduates meet the standards outlined in the *Osteopathic Practice Standards*
 - Make sure graduates meet the outcomes of the *Guidance for Osteopathic Pre-registration Education* (2015) and the *Quality Assurance Subject benchmark statement: Osteopathy* (2015)
 - Identify good practice and innovation to improve the student and patient experience
 - Identify concerns at an early stage and help to resolve them effectively without compromising patient safety or having a detrimental effect on student education
 - Identify areas for development or any specific conditions to be imposed upon the course providers to ensure standards continue to be met
 - Promote equality and diversity in osteopathic education.
5. The format of the review will be based on the updated GOsC/QAA Handbook 2019 and the updated *Osteopathic Practice Standards* (2018) (<https://www.osteopathy.org.uk/news-and-resources/document-library/osteopathic-practice-standards/updated-osteopathic-practice-standards/>) which come into force on 1 September 2019. Associated guidance will also include the *Guidance for Osteopathic Pre-registration Education* (2015) (<http://www.osteopathy.org.uk/training-and-registration/becoming-an-osteopath/guidance-osteopathic-pre-registration-education/>).

6. In addition to the usual review format for an renewal of recognition review (appropriate to the stage of development of this course), the Committee would like to ensure that the following areas are explored:
 - a. Update on clinical provision, and clinical education, to include:
 - Update on progress made and effectiveness of clinical placement provision, including service level agreements that articulate clinical arrangements and responsibilities, and mentoring provision for supervisors and students. (Condition 2)
 - How the potential risk of patients being treated external to the university environment is mitigated (including ensuring appropriate supervision of students and quality assurance of placements, relevant complaints policies etc)
 - Provision of a teaching clinic infrastructure and resources, sufficient to meet current requirements and consistent with planned growth in student numbers. (Condition 4)
 - Implementation of a clinic marketing strategy sufficient to ensure that there is an appropriate range and diversity of patients in order to meet students' needs, consistent with the expectations of the Subject Benchmark Statement for Osteopathy and the Guidance for Osteopathic Pre-Registration Education. (Condition 5)
 - b. An update on staffing to include:
 - Progress on the phased strategy for recruitment, appointment and training of specialist staff to provide students with a diversity of exposure to a range of osteopathic perspectives. (Condition 6)
 - Training for staff, including external placement supervisors, in relation to the student fitness to practise policy. (Condition 3)
 - c. An update on the areas for development recommended in the QAA Visitors' Report from October 2016, which were:
 - Ensure that comprehensive formative and summative assessment information is provided in all module handbooks prior to the start of the programme.
 - Articulate more clearly within the programme specification, module descriptors and handbooks how the programme teaching and learning strategy progressively facilitates students' integrated competence development throughout the levels, by ensuring that the clinical education experience is effectively structured, including external placements in supporting in-house clinical education, and that students' development of their knowledge, skills and professional attributes are similarly structured within the other core programme themes. Implement a plan for engaging service users in the development and enhancement of the programme and the clinical experience.

- Include in the programme specification clear criteria for the recognition of prior learning, including available modules, procedures to identify any further gaps in applicants' incoming competence profiles and, where appropriate, their record of osteopathic clinical education practice.
- Include in the programme specification particular arrangements for inducting and orientating UK and non-UK students entering with advanced standing, consistent with the requirements of Osteopathic Practice Standards, and addressing any deficiencies in their incoming competence profiles.

Provisional Timetable

7. The provisional timetable for the Marjon RQ review will be as follows:

Month/Year	Action/Decision
March 2019	Committee agreement of review specification
June 2019	Committee agreement and statutory appointment of visitors
November 2019	Submission of self-evaluation document.
January 2020	RQ Visit (including observation of teaching and learning both clinical and academic and opportunities for discussions with staff and students.)
February 2020	Draft Report to MARJON for comments-statutory period.
March 2020	Preparation of Action Plan to meet proposed conditions (if any)
June 2020	Recommendation from the Committee to Council to whether to approve the RQ programme
July 2020	Recognition of Qualification by the General Osteopathic Council
Before December 2020	Privy Council Approval

This timetable will be the subject of negotiation with the University of St Mark Marjon, GOsC and the QAA to ensure mutually convenient times