

Education Committee Summary

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22 September 2011 – 65th meeting of the Education Committee

The agenda and all related papers can be found on the GOsC website.

QUALITY ASSURANCE REVIEW

The Education Committee reviewed the preliminary quality assurance review and concluded that the purpose of the review – to update the quality assurance process to ensure it better meets its purpose within the current legal framework – was met and that the preliminary review was now concluded. The Committee also noted that a fundamental review was about to commence considering potential legislative change. Other matters would continue to be taken into account as part of our own focus on quality improvement.

STUDENT FITNESS TO PRACTISE UPDATE

Following a consultation on the draft suite of student fitness to practise guidance from 1 May 2011 to 1 September 2011, the Education Committee agreed to recommend it to the Council for publication. The Committee also agreed to reconvene the Student Fitness to Practise Working Group to consider further implementation and evaluation and noted the potential to pilot an e-learning tool subject to further discussions with the OEIs. The Committee also agreed to publish guidance on the management of health impairments and disability developed closely with the Osteopathic Educational Institutions.

PREPAREDNESS TO PRACTISE UPDATE

The Committee noted an update on the Preparedness to Practise project. Professor Della Freeth had presented the emerging findings to a meeting of the Research Strategy Working Group (RSWG), representatives of the OEIs, newly qualified osteopaths and those working with newly qualified osteopaths on 12 September 2011. These included the identification of potential areas of good practice from each institution participating. It is expected that the final report will be submitted to GOsC by the end of the year. It is hoped that findings will be published in academic journals outside osteopathy.

COUNCIL FOR HEALTHCARE REGULATORY EXCELLENCE (CHRE) REPORT – PERFORMANCE REVIEW

The Committee noted that the following issues highlighted by the CHRE were being considered as part of the work of the Education Committee and that progress would be reported to CHRE on these issues in the 2011/12 Performance Review:

- Progress regarding the GOsC's work to improve knowledge, understanding and application of clinical audit amongst osteopaths.

- The impact of this work on the GOsC's Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and revalidation schemes, along with any evidence of outcomes suggesting benefits to patients.
- The outcomes of the GOsC's research on the preparedness for practice of newly qualified/registered osteopaths.

Full minutes of the meeting will be published when confirmed by the next meeting of the Committee on 15 December 2011