



Policy Advisory Committee

16 June 2016

Terms of reference

Classification	Public
Purpose	For noting
Issue	The agreed terms of reference of the Policy Advisory Committee.
Recommendation	To note the Committee's terms of reference.
Financial and resourcing implications	None
Equality and diversity implications	None
Communications implications	None
Annex	Terms of reference and membership of the Policy Advisory Committee
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Background

1. Council agreed the terms of reference for the Policy Advisory Committee at its meeting on 5 May 2016.
2. The terms of reference can be found at the Annex to this paper.

Recommendation: to note the Committee's terms of reference.

Terms of reference and membership of the Policy Advisory Committee

The role of the Policy Advisory Committee is to contribute to the development of Council policy. To do this it will:

- a. Advise Council on all matters of policy including:
 - i. The standards required for initial registration and appropriate means for assessing those standards.
 - ii. On all matters relating to pre-registration education and training of osteopaths, including the standards of osteopathic practice required for registration.
 - iii. Post-registration education and training, including the requirements for ensuring osteopaths remain fit to practise.
 - iv. The management, investigation and adjudication of concerns about the fitness to practise of registrants.
 - v. Matters relating to the exercise of powers under section 32 of the act (protection of title).
 - vi. The development of the osteopathic profession.
 - vii. Measures to encourage research and research dissemination within the osteopathic profession.
 - viii. Any research needs to support the GOsC's work.
- b. Take into account the decisions of fitness to practise committees, information from the PSA and other relevant sources, and external legal or other requirements.
- c. Ensure that policy development has been informed by effective engagement with the full range of the GOsC's stakeholders.
- d. Make an annual report for Council on the work of the Committee.

The Committee will also undertake the statutory functions that are reserved to the Education Committee, which are to:

- a. Advise Council on the recognition of qualifications in accordance with section 14(6) of the Act.
- b. Appoint and manage the performance of visitors to conduct the evaluation of courses under section 12 of the Act.
- c. Advise Council on matters relating to the withdrawal of recognition of a qualification in accordance with sections 16(1) and 18(5) of the Act.

- d. Exercise powers to require information from osteopathic educational institutions in connection with its statutory functions in accordance with Section 18 of the Act.

Meeting Frequency

Three times yearly or more frequently if required. Some business may be conducted out of committee where required.

Membership

Ordinary members

- Five members of Council, of whom two shall be osteopaths and three shall be lay members. One of the lay members shall be appointed by Council to be Chair of the Committee
- Four members who are not members of Council.

Co-opted members

The Committee may co-opt up to five members in accordance with Rule 3 of the Statutory Committee Rules.

Observers with speaking rights

The member organisations of the Osteopathic Development Group are invited to send an observer with speaking rights to each meeting.

Observers may not take part in any part of the meeting where the business is that reserved to the Education Committee.

Quorum

Five, of which:

- at least one must be a lay person and one must be an osteopath
- at least two must be members of Council and two must be members who are not members of Council.