



Policy Advisory Committee (Education Committee)

12 June 2018

**London School of Osteopathy – Recognised Qualification review
specification and appointment of Visitors**

Classification	Public
Purpose	For decision
Issue	<p>Approval of the Review Specification for the renewal of the Recognised Qualifications review at the London School of Osteopathy on 28, 29 September and 1 October 2018.</p> <p>The appointment of the Visitors for the London School of Osteopathy Recognised Qualification Review.</p>
Recommendations	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To agree the updated review specification for the London School of Osteopathy renewal of RQ review.2. To note the update on the appointment of the Visitors.
Financial and resourcing implications	The costs of the review have been included within the budget for the 2018-19 financial year.
Equality and diversity implications	None
Communications implications	The review specification has been shared with the QAA and School and will be publicly available.
Annex	Draft London School of Osteopathy review specification
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Background

1. The London School of Osteopathy currently provides the following qualifications which are due to expire on 31 August 2019:
 - a. Bachelor of Osteopathy (Hons) 5 years part time or 3.5 years full time
 - b. Master of Osteopathy 6 years part time or 4 years full time.
2. The qualifications continue to be validated by the Anglia Ruskin University.
3. In order to renew the recognition of the qualifications before they expire, a GOsC RQ Review commenced in spring 2018.
4. The Committee appointed a team of visitors to undertake this review in October 2017 and also agreed a review specification at that time. However, due to circumstances beyond our control, the visit was unable to complete and it is now necessary to appoint a fresh team of Visitors to undertake and complete the review using the review specification already agreed by the Committee but with amended dates.
5. This paper asks the Committee to appoint the fresh Education Visitor team.

Discussion

Review Specification

6. The QAA will conduct the review visit on behalf of the GOsC, based on a review specification previously agreed by the Committee (but including an updated indicative timetable) and attached at the Annex.

Appointment of Visitors

7. Section 12 of the Osteopaths Act 1993 provides that 'The Education Committee may appoint Visitors to ... report to the Education Committee on the nature and quality of instruction and such other matters as he was required to report on by the Committee.'
8. Some members of the visiting team have been agreed, but we are currently in the process of identifying the remaining members for appointment by the Committee. The team will comprise at least one Visitor who is part of the current pool. We anticipate that the team will be confirmed shortly, and at this point, we will ask the Committee to appoint the Visitors through an electronic circulation.

Recommendations:

1. To agree the updated review specification for the London School of Osteopathy renewal of RQ review.
2. To note the update on the appointment of the Visitors.

Draft Review Specification for the London School of Osteopathy – Renewal of Recognition of Recognised Qualifications

Draft as at 25 May 2018

Background

1. The London School of Osteopathy (LSO) currently provides the following qualifications which are due to expire on 31 August 2019.
 - a. Bachelor of Osteopathy (Hons) 5 years part time or 3.5 years full time
 - b. Master of Osteopathy 6 years part time or 4 years full time.
2. The LSO wishes to renew both of these qualifications. A copy of the current Recognised Qualification award and the last Quality Assurance Agency for Higher School information.
3. Copies of Committee papers relating to the LSO are attached to this specification for information.

QAA Review

4. The GOsC requests that the QAA schedules a combined renewal of recognition review of the following qualifications:
 - a. Bachelor of Osteopathy (Hons)
 - b. Master of Osteopathy.
5. 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 (OPS)*
 - 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.

6. The format of the review will be based on the GOsC/QAA Handbook (<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/reviews-and-reports/how-we-review-higher-education/general-osteopathic-council-review>) and the *Osteopathic Practice Standards* (<http://www.osteopathy.org.uk/standards/>). 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/>).
7. In addition to the usual review format, the Committee would like to ensure that the following area is explored:
 - a. An update on the implementation of the new assessment strategy and mechanisms to monitor and evaluate this.
8. The provisional timetable for the London School of Osteopathy RQ review will be as follows:
 - June / July 2018 – Committee appointment of new Visitors (electronically)
 - September 2018 – Submission of updated self-evaluation document
 - Visit– 28 and 29 September and 1 October 2018 - Visit (including observation of teaching and learning both clinical and academic and opportunities for discussions with staff and students.)
 - November/December 2018 – Draft Report sent to LSO for comments– statutory period.
 - January 2019 – Preparation of Action Plan to meet proposed conditions (if any).
 - March 2019 – Recommendation from the Committee to Council to recognise the qualification.
 - May 2019 – Recognition of Qualification by the General Osteopathic Council.
 - Before August 2019 – Approval by the Privy Council.
9. This timetable will be the subject of negotiation with the LSO, GOsC and the QAA to ensure mutually convenient times.