



Policy Advisory Committee

12 June 2019

Association of Educators in Osteopathy Update

Classification	Public
Purpose	For noting
Issue	An update about the development of the Association of Educators in Osteopathy lead by the Council of Osteopathic Educational Institutions.
Recommendation	To note the update about the development of the Association of Educators in Osteopathy.
Financial and resourcing implications	None at present. Staff time may be required to continue to support the Council of Osteopathic Educational Institutions as this initiative develops.
Equality and diversity implications	The activities of the Association include to ensure that they are accessible to all and that any barriers to participation are overcome.
Communications implications	We will support communications about the Association of Educators at the appropriate time.
Annex	None
Author	Fiona Browne

Background

1. Our 2018/19 Business Plan sets out a theme of 'Assuring the quality of osteopathic education and training'. Our core goal as part of this is 'Working with our quality assurance partner and UK osteopathic educational providers to ensure that recognised qualifications are only awarded to students who are able to practise in accordance with the Osteopathic Practice Standards (OPS).'
2. One of the activities outlined to contribute to this core goal is: 'Work with the Council of Osteopathic Educational Institutions and educational providers to support the development of osteopathic educators.'

Discussion

3. The Council of Osteopathic Educational Institutions have been working with a small steering group including ourselves to develop the idea of an Association of Educators in Osteopathy to support the development of a community of educators in osteopathy.
4. A document setting out Purpose, Aims, Methods and Next Steps has been developed and work is proceeding under the Chair of the Steering Group, Dr Kerstin Rolfe who is also Chair of the Council of Osteopathic Educational Institutions.
5. The purpose of the Association of Educators in Osteopathy includes:
 - a. Identifying, promoting and disseminating good practice in osteopathic education (including but not limited to development of curricula, assessment, teaching and learning, governance and inclusion of patients) drawing from osteopathic education, but also from health professional education and education more broadly.
 - b. Building a community of educators in osteopathy across osteopathic educational institutions by promoting opportunities for learning and sharing together.
 - c. Supporting the continuing professional development of educators in osteopathy.
 - d. Promoting equality of opportunity and valuing diversity, being accessible and inclusive in the context of the achievement of its purpose, aims, methods and outcomes.
 - e. Supporting the development of knowledge and skills in leadership in osteopathic education.
 - f. Supporting the development of the role of educator (for example as external examiner, quality assurance visitor etc.)
6. Whilst this initiative is led by COEI, we are working with the steering group and the Osteopathic Educational Institutions to support the continued development of these aims.

Recommendation: to note the update about the development of the Association of Educators in Osteopathy.