



Policy Advisory Committee (Education Committee)

12 June 2019

Plymouth Marjon University – Approval of Visitors for renewal of recognition of qualification- (reserved)

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| Classification | Public |
| Purpose | For decision |
| Issue | The appointment of the Visitors for the Plymouth Marjon University's Recognised Qualification Review. |
| Recommendation | To agree to appoint Robert Thomas, Ceira Kinch and Dr Marvelle Brown as Visitors for the Master of Osteopathic Medicine offered by Plymouth Marjon University. |
| Financial and resourcing implications | The costs of the review will be budgeted for within the 2019-20 financial year and are incorporated into our current contract with the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) at a cost of £21,871. |
| Equality and diversity implications | None |
| Communications implications | None. |
| Annex | None |
| Author | Kabir Kareem |

Background

1. The Plymouth Marjon University (Marjon) currently provides the following qualifications which are due to expire on 31 January 2021: Master of Osteopathic Medicine – full time and part time.
2. In order to renew the recognition of the qualifications before they expire, a GOsC RQ Review should commence in January 2019. Before the review is scheduled, we also need to approve a team of appropriately qualified Visitors, drawn from the pool recruited and trained by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) and the GOsC and agree suitable dates with Marjon, taking account of the indicative timetable outlined in the review specification approved at the March 2019 meeting.
3. This paper asks the Committee to appoint the Education Visitor team.

Discussion

Appointment of Visitors

4. 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.'
5. The Committee are invited to appoint Visitors to participate in the review of the Plymouth Marjon University qualification as outlined in the RQ Review Specification approved by the Committee at the March 2019 meeting.
6. The visit is scheduled to take place during January 2020 at Plymouth Marjon University. The proposed Visit Team is:

| Name | Role | Organisation |
|----------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Robert Thomas | Osteopathic Visitor | The European School of Osteopathy |
| Ceira Kinch | Osteopathic Visitor | The European School of Osteopathy |
| Marvelle Brown | Lay Visitor | University of Hertfordshire |

7. The Visit Team comprises a mixture of existing and new Education Visitors in GOsC/QAA reviews. These recommended Visitors are members of the QAA / GOsC Visitors pool (comprising lay people and osteopaths) administered by the QAA who undertake selection, training and appraisal of all Visitors on our behalf. All new Visitors were appointed through a rigorous process and all Visitors have participated in training within the last 12 months.
8. We have checked that the proposed osteopathic visitors are currently registered. We have also checked the Visit Team with Plymouth Marjon University which has

confirmed that they are not aware of any conflicts. The proposed Visit Team has not declared any conflicts in undertaking the review of Plymouth Marjon University. There is no known reason why we should not appoint these Visitors.

Recommendation: To agree to appoint Robert Thomas, Ceira Kinch and Dr Marvelle Brown as Visitors for the Master of Osteopathic Medicine offered by Plymouth Marjon University.