



**Policy Advisory Committee (statutory Education Committee)**

**13 October 2016**

**Recognised Qualification review specification – Surrey Institute of  
Osteopathic Medicine (SIOM)**

<b>Classification</b>	Public
<b>Purpose</b>	For decision
<b>Issue</b>	Agreement of the Review Specification for the renewal of the Recognised Qualifications review at the SIOM commencing in autumn 2017.
<b>Recommendation</b>	To agree the review specification for the SIOM renewal of RQ review.
<b>Financial and resourcing implications</b>	This planned 'recognised qualification' review was included in our 2018/19 financial schedule, with a budget of £21,871.
<b>Equality and diversity implications</b>	None
<b>Communications implications</b>	The review specification will be shared with the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) and the SIOM.
<b>Annex</b>	Annex – Draft SIOM review specification
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## Background

1. The current SIOM RQ provision and context for the review is outlined below.

Courses with RQ status	Master of Osteopathy Medicine (BOst) - 4 years full time Bachelor in Osteopathic Medicine (MOst) – 4 years full time
Awarding body	Kingston University from September 2014
RQ period	1 November 2013 to 31 October 2018. This paper deals with the renewal of this recognition from 1 November 2018 – October 2023
Status of any specific RQ conditions attached to the course/s	SIOM develops and implements a marketing plan from September 2013 which is linked to forecast student numbers, underpinned by strengthened commitments to ensure that students are gaining the requisite breadth and depth of experience to deliver the <i>Osteopathic Practice Standards</i> and address ways of building relationships with existing patients.  SIOM should report on progress with the implementation plan in each Annual Report submitted to the General Council within the recognition period.
The statutory Education Committee specific requests for information in the Annual Report return	A yearly figure for patient numbers to demonstrate implementation of the marketing plan.  An update on actions and progress relating to student satisfaction should be included in the Annual Report due at the end of 2016.

2. The last RQ renewal visit to SIOM took place in February 2013. This report is available at <http://www.osteopathy.org.uk/news-and-resources/document-library/training/siom-initial-and-renewal-of-recognition-review-feb-2013/>.
3. A monitoring review visit took place at SIOM in November 2015. This report is available at: <http://www.osteopathy.org.uk/news-and-resources/document-library/training/surrey-institute-of-osteopathic-medicine-goscqaa-monitoring/>.
4. In order to renew the recognition of the qualifications before they expire, a GOsC RQ Review should commence in summer 2017. Before the review is scheduled, the statutory Education Committee will approve a team of appropriately qualified Visitors. We will also agree a suitable timeline with SIOM, taking account of the indicative timetable outlined in the review specification at the Annex.

## Discussion

5. The QAA will conduct the review visit on behalf of the GOsC, based on this review specification and the GOsC/QAA review process outlined at <http://www.qaa.ac.uk/reviews-and-reports/how-we-review-higher-education/general-osteopathic-council-review>. An initial draft of the review specification is presented at the Committee to agree.
6. There were two RQ conditions for these courses, one of which has been fulfilled.

### *RQ conditions*

7. RQ condition (a): 'SIOM develops and makes explicit, by the end of 2013, the assessment criteria employed for year four assessments in the Bachelor of Osteopathic Medicine and Master of Osteopathic Medicine qualifications to demonstrate greater differentiation between Level 6 and (7) M Level.'
8. At the Committee meeting on the 27 February 2014, it was reported that QAA annual report analysis stated that the re-writing of the assessment criteria and module guidance for research, to demonstrate greater differentiation between Levels 6 and 7, formed part of the submission to Kingston University at the validation event in January 2014. SIOM submitted the revised module guides and assessment criteria and it was agreed by the Committee on the 24 February 2014 that RQ condition (a) had been fulfilled.
9. RQ condition (b): 'SIOM develops and implements a marketing plan from September 2013 which is linked to forecast student numbers, underpinned by strengthened commitments to ensure that students are gaining the requisite breadth and depth of experience to deliver the *Osteopathic Practice Standards* (OPS) and address ways of building relationships with existing patients. The SIOM should report on progress with the implementation plan in each Annual Report submitted to the General Council within the recognition period. In future reports it should provide a yearly figure for patient numbers to demonstrate implementation. This condition has since been delivered through the annual reporting process.
10. At the 27 February 2014 Committee meeting, it was agreed that the SIOM has reported on condition (b) as is required, but that in future reports it should provide a yearly figure for patient numbers to demonstrate implementation. This was then integrated into the annual reporting process.
11. During 2015 and 2016, the Committee considered the SIOM Annual Report analysis on student satisfaction ratings for SIOM, including ratings from the organisation and management section of the National Student Survey. The Committee sought assurance that there were no impacts on the OPS and related issues from these ratings. SIOM monitored student satisfaction ratings and provided the Committee with updates on the monitoring results and actions taken to address any potential impacts on the OPS. During this period the

Committee noted that SIOM had taken appropriate action to improve student satisfaction. At the 16 June 2016 meeting of the Committee it was agreed to request an update on actions and progress relating to student satisfaction be included in the Annual Report due at the end of 2016. This will include any relevant contextualisation provided by SIOM, for example in relation to SIOM's location within a further education institution.

*New entry route to the RQ MOst course through certification of prior learning*

12. At the Committee meeting 18 June 2015, it was reported that SIOM wished to introduce a new entry route to the RQ MOst course through certification of prior learning (CPL). This had been agreed by SIOM's validating university, Kingston University. This was proposed to be undertaken on a case-by-case basis for any applicant and a pathway was mapped for the International College of Osteopathic Medicine (ICOM) osteopathy diplomates. SIOM also wished to introduce a clinic exchange visit for RQ MOst students to ICOM, and wanted to enrol the first cohort of ICOM CPL applicants in 2015-16 and for the exchange also to take place in 2015-16.
13. As a result of the above report and the need to ensure standards were maintained in the face of such changes, it was agreed that a list of clarifications be prepared and a review specification be produced for a targeted RQ visit. A review specification was agreed by the Committee in October 2015 via email and the review proposed by the QAA. The visit took place during late November 2015.
14. On 3 March 2016, the Committee approved the MOst course with conditions. This included that the following be monitored throughout the duration of the RQ period:
  - Monitoring condition 1 – 'Initially use CPL route and associated processes only for graduates of ICOM and that this condition is reviewed at the next RQ renewal (paragraphs 20 and 36).
  - Monitoring condition 2 – ensure effective arrangements are in place for students to be able to travel to offsite clinics where these clinics form part of students' critical clinical experience (paragraphs 53)
  - Monitoring condition 3 - regularly (on a twice yearly basis) monitor, analyse and report patient numbers to ensure that patient numbers and their diversity is sufficient to meet actual demand of CPL and SEP students, while ensuring continuity for postgraduate practitioners and osteopathy services to patients are not compromised when student demand for patients falls (paragraph 57).'
  - RQ Condition B – The SIOM develops and implements a marketing plan from September 2013 which is linked to forecast student numbers, underpinned by strengthened commitments to ensure that students are gaining the requisite breadth and depth of experience to deliver the OPS and address ways of building relationships with existing patients. The SIOM should report on progress with the implementation plan in each Annual Report submitted to the General Council within the recognition period. In future reports it

should provide a yearly figure for patient numbers to demonstrate implementation.

- The SIOM structures clinical activity so it is not scheduled at the end of the day to ensure CPL students are sufficiently alert and maintain OPS integrity.' (Paragraph 26).
- Kingston University enters into a progression agreement that also includes, in this specific case, providing quality oversight of the ICOM provision.
- SIOM is able to specifically to demonstrate how it ensures that students meet the required English Language standards.

13. The draft review specification attached at the Annex takes into account matters considered at previous Committee meetings as follows:

- The impact of the SIOM monitoring report 2015.
- The use of the CPL route and associated processes only for graduates of ICOM. The SIOM monitoring report 2015 states that this condition is to be reviewed at the next RQ renewal.
- Mechanisms being used by SIOM to monitor, analyse and report their CPL intake, and how the resulting information is being considered and acted on.
- Practical arrangements to support the achievement of student experience – including hours and travel arrangements.
- The effectiveness of the on-going market plan in attracting forecasted students numbers, and delivering a sufficient breadth and depth of patients to ensure that CPL and standard entry pathway (SEP) students have sufficient experience to demonstrate that they meet the Osteopathic Practice Standards.
- Mechanisms being used by SIOM to monitor, analyse and report their patient numbers (to ensure that patient numbers and their diversity is sufficient to meet actual demand of CPL and SEP students) and how the resulting information is being considered and acted on.
- Assessment of English language for students.

14. This review specification may be subject to change due to changing circumstances prior to the review. If, for example, the annual reporting process identifies student satisfaction issues that are impacting, or could potentially impact on the OPS and related issues, these can be incorporated into the review specification. Any changes to the specification will be notified to the Committee.

**Recommendation:** to approve the review specification for the SIOM renewal of RQ review.

**GOsC Review Specification for the review of qualifications awarded by the Surrey Institute of Osteopathic Medicine**

**DRAFT**

**23 September 2016**

**Background**

1. The SIOM currently provides the following qualifications which are due to expire on October 2018:
  - a) Master of Osteopathy Medicine (MOst) - 4 years full time.
  - b) Bachelor of Osteopathic Medicine (BOst)– 4 years full time.
2. The SIOM wishes to renew both of these qualifications. A copy of the current Recognised Qualification award and the last Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) review report of 2013 for the SIOM is attached for information.
3. The QAA monitoring review report for 2015 for the SIOM is also attached. At the Committee meeting 18 June 2015, it was reported that SIOM wished to introduce a new entry route to the RQ MOst course through certification of prior learning (CPL). This had been agreed by SIOM's validating university, Kingston University. This was proposed to be undertaken on a case-by-case basis for any applicant and a pathway was mapped for the International College of Osteopathic Medicine (ICOM) osteopathy diplomates. SIOM also wished to introduce a clinic exchange visit for RQ MOst students to ICOM, and wanted to enrol the first cohort of ICOM CPL applicants in 2015-16 and for the exchange also to take place in 2015-16. As a result of the above report and the need to ensure standards were maintained in the face of such changes, it was agreed that a list of clarifications be prepared and a review specification be produced for a targeted RQ visit. A review specification was agreed by the Committee in October 2015 via email and the review proposed by the QAA. The visit took place during late November 2015. 15. In 3 March 2016, the Committee approved the MOst course with conditions, as set out in the attached report.

**QAA Review**

4. The GOsC requests that the QAA schedules a combined renewal of recognition review of the following qualifications:
  - a) Master of Osteopathy Medicine - 4 years full time
  - b) Bachelor of Osteopathic Medicine – 4 years full time.

5. 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/>).
6. In addition to the usual review format, Policy Advisory Committee would like to ensure that the following areas are explored:
  - The impact of the SIOM monitoring report 2015.
  - The use of the CPL route and associated processes only for graduates of ICOM. The SIOM monitoring report 2015 states that this condition is to be reviewed at the next RQ renewal.
  - Mechanisms being used by SIOM to monitor, analyse and report their CPL intake, and how the resulting information is being considered and acted on.
  - Practical arrangements to support the achievement of student experience – including hours and travel arrangements.
  - The effectiveness of the on-going market plan in attracting forecasted students numbers, and delivering a sufficient breadth and depth of patients to ensure that CPL and standard entry pathway (SEP) students have sufficient experience to demonstrate that they meet the Osteopathic Practice Standards.
  - Mechanisms being used by SIOM to monitor, analyse and report their patient numbers (to ensure that patient numbers and their diversity is sufficient to meet actual demand of CPL and SEP students) and how the resulting information is being considered and acted on.
  - Assessment of English language for students.
7. The provisional timetable for the SIOM RQ review to be completed before the end of the current RQ period in October 2018 will be as follows:
  - 13 October 2016 – the statutory Education Committee agreement of review specification
  - March 2017 – the statutory Education Committee approval of Visitors and scheduling review timetable and visit dates
  - July - August 2017 – Submission of self-evaluation document
  - October 2017 – Visit (including observation of teaching and learning both clinical and academic and opportunities for discussions with staff and students.)
  - November 2017 – Submission of draft report and statutory 28 days for comment on the report.
  - December 2017-January 2018 – Preparation of Action Plan to meet proposed conditions (if any).

- March 2018 – Renewal of RQ considered by the statutory Education Committee.
  - Spring 2018 – Decision to Recognise RQ considered by Council
  - Summer 2018 – Approval of Council decision to recognise RQ by Privy Council.
8. This timetable will be the subject of negotiation with the SIOM, GOsC and the QAA to ensure mutually convenient times.