



Policy and Education Committee

16 June 2022

Update to Mott MacDonald Interim Quality Assurance Handbook

Classification	Public
Purpose	For decision
Issue	To approve the interim Quality Assurance Handbook, to be used in relation to Recognised Qualification renewal visits in 2022 for Nescot and the London College of Osteopathic Medicine
Recommendations	To agree the Interim Quality Assurance Handbook for use in conjunction with the Recognised Qualification Renewal visits for Nescot and the London College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2022.
Financial and resourcing implications	The costs of quality assurance activity will be from planned budgets.
Equality and diversity implications	There will be equality, diversity and inclusion implications in relation to the quality assurance and RQ review process. Promoting equality and valuing diversity is a key component of our quality assurance policy. This is implemented through the criteria against which the RQ process takes place.
Communications implications	None in relation to this paper. The updated interim handbook will be available on our website.
Annex	Annex: Updated Interim QA Handbook
Author	Steven Bettles

Key messages

- There are two Recognised Qualification renewal visits scheduled for October/November 2022.
- The implementation of specific Standards for Education and Training (SET) in relation to osteopathic education means that OEIs will now be required to demonstrate how they meet the SET.
- To facilitate this in relation to the forthcoming RQ visits, the Interim Quality Assurance Handbook has been updated to reflect the SET, and a revised mapping tool developed.
- The Committee is asked to approve the updated interim Quality Assurance Handbook for use in relation to these visits.

Background

1. The Committee previously approved an interim Quality Assurance Handbook at a meeting in [December 2020](#) to use in relation to two planned Recognised Qualification (RQ) renewal visits.
2. Now that the Standards for Education and Training (SET) have been agreed by the Committee and approved by Council for implementation from 1 September 2022, the interim handbook has been further updated to reflect these, and to require Osteopathic Educational Institutions (OEIs) to report against these for RQ visits.
3. This paper presents the interim handbook for approval by the Committee for use in relation to the planned RQ renewal visits for Nescot and the London College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Discussion

4. The updated interim Quality Assurance Handbook is included as Annex A. The changes suggested to reference the new Standards for Education and Training are shown in red. The change from the former mapping document means that the SET form the basis of reporting for both RQ reviews and the annual reporting process, ensuring consistency and reducing some of the burden for OEIs. As will be seen from clause 5.4.1:

For a provider with an existing RQ, who has undertaken the GOsC annual reporting process, the mapping tool will be pre-populated with the most recent version of the annual report. The provider can then add additional information into the mapping tool for the purpose of the RQ visit. The evidence provided with the latest version of the annual report will be copied into the secure SharePoint site, where the provider will be able to update this if required and add additional evidence

5. Other amendments include:

- Updated process around visitor approval by PEC and that the report is sent by GOsC to the provider for observations – this is for clarity and does not change the existing process.
- In annex A, the mapping tool guidance, wording added which reflects how the annual report will be integrated into the process.
- In the table of the standards, added the example “additional” information that could be provided, instead of what should be provided against the standards generally, as for RQ visits, there will likely be an existing annual report to base the report on.
- Where it is in initial recognition review, added a comment around using the annual report guidance and example completed submission for support.

6. A mapping tool template based on the SET has been prepared for OEIs to complete in Excel, and is available on request from Steven Bettles (sbettles@osteopathy.org.uk).

Recommendations:

To agree the Interim Quality Assurance Handbook for use in conjunction with the Recognised Qualification Renewal visits for Nescot and the London College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2022.