



Policy and Education Committee

6 June 2024

Plymouth Marjon University – Visitor approval (reserved)

Classification	Private
Purpose	For decision
Issue	The appointment of the Visitors for Plymouth Marjon's Recognised Qualification Review.
Recommendations	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To agree the appointment of Brian McKenna, Melanie Coutinho and Mark Foster as Visitors for review of Plymouth Marjon University's following programme:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Master of Osteopathy (MOst)
Financial and resourcing implications	The costs of the review are budgeted for within the 2023-24 financial year and are incorporated in our current contract with Mott MacDonald at a cost of £22,083.93.
Equality and diversity implications	Equality and diversity issues are explored as part of the RQ renewal process and are explicitly referenced as part of the Graduate Outcomes and Standards for Education and Training (2022) and in the review criteria set out in the Mott MacDonald Interim Quality Assurance Handbook .
Communications implications	The review specification is shared with Plymouth Marjon, with Mott MacDonald and will be shared with the Visiting Team when they are appointed, and it is publicly available.
Annex	None
Author	Banye Kanon

Key Messages

- Plymouth Marjon University currently provides a qualification in Master of Osteopathy (MOst) the recognition period of which is 1 February 2021 until 31 January 2026.
- This paper seeks the approval of the visitors from the Policy and Education Committee.

Background

1. Plymouth Marjon University currently provides the following qualifications, the recognition period of which is 1 February 2021 until 31 January 2026:
 - Master of Osteopathy (MOst)
2. The visit has been scheduled to take place from Tuesday 3 December 2024 – Thursday 5 December 2024. [The review specification was agreed by the Committee in March 2024.](#)
3. The Committee is asked to approve a team of appropriately qualified Visitors under s12 of the Osteopaths Act 1993, taking into account the review specification at the Annex.

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 Plymouth Marjon's qualification as outlined in the [RQ Review Specification approved by the committee at its meeting in March 2024.](#)
6. The proposed Visit Team is:

Name	Role	Organisation
Dr Brian McKenna	Osteopath	Independent
Melanie Coutinho	Osteopath	Buckinghamshire New University
Mark Foster	Lay	The College of Integrated Chinese Medicine

7. These recommended Visitors are members of the Mott MacDonald/GOsC Visitor pool (comprising of lay and osteopathic visitors) administered by Mott MacDonald who undertake selection, training and appraisal of all visitors on

our behalf. All visitors are scheduled to participated in training delivered by the Mott MacDonald prior to the visit.

8. We have checked that the proposed osteopathic visitors are currently registered. We have also checked the Visiting Team with Plymouth Marjon who have confirmed that there are no issues for the Committee to consider in appointing the team. The proposed Visit Team has not declared any conflict of interests in undertaking the review of Plymouth Marjon. There is no known reason why we should not appoint these visitors.

Recommendations:

1. To agree the appointment of Dr Brian McKenna, Melanie Coutinho and Mark Foster as Visitors for review of Plymouth Marjon University's following programme:
 - Master of Osteopathy (MOst)