

Education Committee
14 March 2012
Professional Standards Department Report

Classification	Public
Purpose	To note
Issues	This paper reports on the work undertaken by the Professional Standards department and any matters arising since the last report to the Education Committee dated 15 December 2011.
Recommendation	To note the Professional Standards Department report.
Financial & Resourcing Implications	None arising directly from this paper.
Equality & Diversity Implications	None arising from this paper.
Communications Implications	External stakeholder meetings are important to learn from and to share progress with other organisations to inform our own development work.

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Background

1. This paper reports on the work undertaken by the Professional Standards Department and any matters arising since the last report to the Education Committee dated 15 December 2011.

Discussion

UK Health Departments

2. On 10 January 2012 the Chief Executive & Registrar and the Head of Professional Standards attended a meeting with the Department of Health in Leeds. The meeting was organised at the invitation of the Department of Health in order to discuss a wide range of issues including: S60 orders to amend primary legislation ahead of the Law Commission review, CHRE cost effectiveness review, Recognised Qualifications, Revalidation, Patient Expectations and preparedness to practice research.
3. On 17 January 2012 the Chief Executive & Registrar and the Head of Professional Standards attended a meeting with Barbara Bale - Head of Staff Development and Commissioning, National Leadership and Innovation Agency for Healthcare, Alison Strode - Professional Advisor to Welsh Government and Stephen Griffiths - Director of Workforce and Development (responsibility for education contracting of the non medical healthcare professions in Wales), in Cardiff. Matters for discussion included the new Recognised Qualification (RQ) in Wales and the non-availability of osteopathy on the NHS in Wales – unlike in England. Progress on revalidation was well received, however, it was also noted that there were few articles published about osteopathy in journals outside osteopathy.
4. On 27 February 2012 the Chief Executive & Registrar and the Head of Professional Standards attended a meeting with the Department of Health Complementary Medicines Team in London as a result of the meeting with the professional standards and regulatory team within the Department of Health in Leeds. The purpose of the meeting was to better understand the professional and regulatory framework for osteopathy within the Department of Health and also to ensure that the complementary medicines part of the DH were clear about the regulatory framework and professional development within osteopathy.
5. On 13 March 2012, the Head of Professional Standards will attend a National Workshop on Developing the Education Outcomes Framework facilitated by the Department of Health. This links to the development of the work of Healthcare Education England.

British Osteopathic Association

6. On 26 January 2012 the Chief Executive & Registrar and the Head of Professional Standards had a telephone conference with Michael Watson of the British Osteopathic Association to discuss the Any Qualified Provider qualification process.
7. The President of the BOA, Marina Urquhart-Pullen has been taking part in the Revalidation Pilot Assessor Interviews throughout January to March 2012. The last interviews will take place on 16 March 2012.

Other regulators

8. On 21 February 2012 the Chief Executive and Registrar, the Head of Policy and Communications, the Head of Regulation and the Head of Professional Standards met with the Council for Healthcare Regulatory Excellence as part of our evidence on the 2011 Performance Review. The final report is due to be published in June 2012.
9. On 7 March 2012 the Head of Professional Standards and the Professional Standards Manager will attend a meeting with the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education to discuss forthcoming contracts.

Osteopathic Educational Institutions

10. On 8 March 2012 the Professional Standards Manager will give a presentation on the Osteopathic Practice Standards and implementation at the College of Osteopaths.
11. On 22 February 2012, Sue Roff facilitated a seminar with all OEIs to agree the content of surveys for the Professionalism in Osteopathy Research Group.

Revalidation

12. On 2 March 2012 the GOsC held a meeting for the Regional Communications Network where the Head of Professional Standards gave a presentation on Revalidation and the CPD Discussion paper.
13. On 3 March 2012 the Head of Professional Standards will be presenting on 'Preparing for Revalidation' at the Risky Practice Conference at the British School of Osteopathy, London.

Patients and the public

14. Work is progressing in our Communications Department to recruit a patient reference group to inform our work. All osteopaths on the Committee are asked to encourage patients to get involved as part of our work. Flyers and further information are available from Sarah Eldred (seldred@osteopathy.org.uk or 020 7357 6655 x245)

Other

15. On 3 February 2012 the Head of Professional Standards attended a meeting with David Sutherland, an education consultant, at his request, to discuss osteopathy and the osteopathic regulatory and educational environment.
16. On 10 February 2012 the Chief Executive & Registrar and the Head of Professional Standards attended a meeting with Dr Lynn Monrouxe, a researcher in Medical Education to discuss her research on communication skills in clinical settings.
17. On 16 February 2012, the Head of Policy and Communications and the Professional Standards Manager met with representatives from BUPA to discuss the musculo-skeletal care pathway and the role of osteopathy. The discussions included the report about the Standardised Data Collection Project undertaken by the National Council for Osteopathic Research, the patient expectations study and our work on Revalidation and particularly the Revalidation Manual and tools and the Handbook for Clinical Audit for Practising Osteopaths by the National Council for Osteopathic Research. The aim of the BUPA care pathway is to reduce surgical interventions where possible.

Project updates

18. All other project updates are provided elsewhere on this agenda.

Recommendation

19. To note the Professional Standards Department report.