

Council, 19 May 2016

Research 2012-2016

Executive summary and recommendations

Introduction

At its meeting on 23 March 2016, the Council approved the Research strategy 2016-2020 (subject to amendments agreed at the meeting).

The Council discussed the impact and value for money for research activities and the challenges in assessing these. The attached document lists the externally commissioned research projects completed 2012 to date. For each project a short description of the methods and findings is given, followed by a short summary of how we have used the outcomes of the research in our work.

Decision

This paper is to note; no decision is required.

Background information

Final published version of research strategy 2016-2020

<http://www.hcpc-uk.org/Assets/documents/10004FA2HCPCResearchstrategy2016to2020.pdf>

Resource implications

None

Financial implications

None

Appendices

None

Date of paper

9 May 2016

Year	Project	Brief summary of research	How the research has been used
2012	<p>Student fitness to practise and registration: A literature review</p> <p>Prime Research and Development</p> <p>http://www.hcpc-uk.org/publications/research/index.asp?id=568</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literature review. • The research looked at the available research literature about student fitness to practise, including student registration. • The research team concluded that they found little evidence which would support the introduction of a register of students. The final report also identified what may be best practice for education providers and regulators in this area. 	<p>Thought leadership and general regulatory policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This research was commissioned to complement the 2011-12 consultation on student fitness to practise and registration. • The research informed the Council's decision to establish the social work student suitability scheme to manage the transition from registering social work students under the GSCC to HCPC's approach. The research also informed the Council's decision that students should not be registered in any of the professions.
2012	<p>Service user involvement in the design and delivery of education and training programmes approved by the HPC</p> <p>Kingston University London and St George's (University of London)</p> <p>http://www.hcpc-uk.org/publications/research/index.asp?id=550</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literature review; questionnaire with education providers; focus groups with students, education providers and service users; and consensus conference. • Research explored whether the SETs should be amended to make service user involvement in approved programmes a specific requirement. • The research found that most if not all approved programmes already involved service users in some way. There was general consensus that the SETs should be amended, but with some reservations. 	<p>Standards development and review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The research helped give the Education and Training Committee the evidence it needed to decide to progress changes to the standards of education and training. • The research informed the wording / content of a new standard of education and training and the text of the supporting guidance.

2012	<p>Fitness to practise multi-variant analysis</p> <p>Lesley Brookes, Oxford Brookes University</p> <p>http://www.hcpc-uk.org/assets/documents/10003DCFenc06-RevalidationFitnessstopractisedataanalysis.pdf</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This study looked at data from registrants who have reached a final fitness to practise hearing and where a sanction was applied. It looked at the characteristics of registrants reaching final hearings and whether there were relationships with variables such as age, gender and route to registration. • Age, male gender, grandparenting application route and registration within the last 10 years were found to be predictors of a well-founded fitness to practise case (with some caveats). 	<p>Process development and review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This research formed part of a programme of work exploring continuing fitness to practise.
2013	<p>Understanding public protection</p> <p>Picker Institute Europe</p> <p>http://www.hcpc-uk.org/publications/research/index.asp?id=668</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus groups, interviews and survey with registrants, stakeholders and members of the public to explore understanding of the concept of ‘public protection’ and ‘fitness to practise’. 	<p>Thought leadership and general regulatory policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The research informed work to better explain to members of the public and others the purpose of the fitness to practise process, including a policy statement on the meaning of fitness to practise.
2013	<p>Standards of conduct, performance and ethics – accessibility and understanding</p> <p>The Focus Group</p> <p>http://www.hcpc-uk.org/assets/documents/10004526HCPCResearchRep</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interviews and focus groups with service users and registrants to explore views on the content and accessibility of the standards of conduct, performance and ethics. • The research made a number of recommendations for areas of the standards that might need to be amended and new standards that might need to be added. 	<p>Standards development and review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alongside other pieces of research and stakeholder engagement, the research was used in papers considered by the Professional Liaison Group (PLG) set up to assist in putting together revised standards for consultation.

	ort-SCPEaccessibilityandunderstandingFinalReportMay2013.pdf		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The research contributed to the final content of the standards, republished in January 2016.
2013	Standards of conduct, performance and ethics – service user and carer consultation Shaping our lives http://www.hcpc-uk.org/assets/documents/10004528HCPCreportbyShapingOurLivesfinal.pdf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interviews and a focus group with service users and carers with a broad range of experiences of health and care. The research made a number of recommendations about areas of the standards that might need to be amended and new standards that might need to be added. 	Standards development and review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alongside other pieces of research and stakeholder engagement, the research was used in papers considered by the Professional Liaison Group (PLG) set up to assist in putting together revised standards for consultation. The research contributed to the final content of the standards, republished in January 2016. This study was particularly useful in helping improve the structure and overall accessibility of the revised standards.
2013	Standards of conduct, performance and ethics – Connect review Connect http://www.hcpc-uk.org/publications/research/index.asp?id=734	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitated consultation groups with people with acquired communication disorders and their carers. The research made a number of recommendations about making the standards less complex and improving their overall accessibility. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alongside other pieces of research and stakeholder engagement, the research was used in papers considered by the Professional Liaison Group (PLG) set up to assist in putting together revised standards for consultation. The research contributed to the final content of the standards, republished in January 2016. This study was particularly useful in helping improve the structure and overall accessibility of the revised standards.

<p>2015</p>	<p>Preventing small problems from becoming big problems in health and care</p> <p>Zubin Austin, University of Toronto</p> <p>Picker Institute Europe</p> <p>http://www.hcpc-uk.org/publications/research/index.asp?id=1009</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explored engagement and disengagement and its implications for our understanding of the competence of health and care professionals. • Literature review, followed by a case review and interviews and focus groups with registrants, stakeholders, service users and the public. • Provided insight into the triggers of disengagement and what the system as a whole might do to prevent them. 	<p>Thought leadership and general regulatory policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The outcomes of this research have formed the basis of a number of conference presentations. • The outcomes of the research have been used to engage registrants in workshops at 'Meet the HCPC' events.
<p>2015</p>	<p>The costs of fitness to practise – a student of the Health and Care Professions Council</p> <p>Centre for Health Service Economics and Organisation, University of Oxford</p> <p>http://www.hcpc-uk.org/publications/research/index.asp?id=1056</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statistical analysis of fitness to practise case cost data. • The analysis reported on the average and range of costs at different stages of the fitness to practise process and found that the factors which affect the costs of cases were more about case and circumstances than person or profession. 	<p>Thought leadership and general regulatory policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The analysis was formally published and discussed with stakeholders.

2015	<p>CPD perceptions and experiences</p> <p>QA Research</p> <p>http://www.hcpc-uk.org/assets/documents/10004CECEnc03-PerceptionsandexperiencesoftheHCPCsapproachtocontinuingprofessionaldevelopmentstandardsandaudits.pdf</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey, interviews and focus groups with registrants and stakeholders to explore perceptions and experiences of the CPD standards and audit process. • The CPD standards were well understood; most participants were content with the existing standards; there were reports of some impact. Recommendations were made to revise supporting guidance and standard correspondence. 	<p>Process development and review</p> <p>Standards development and review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The outcomes are likely to inform the revision of guidance.
2015	<p>Measuring professionalism as a multi-dimensional construct</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See paper on the agenda at this meeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See paper on the agenda at this meeting.
2016	<p>Preparation for practice: The role of the standards of education and training in ensuring newly qualified professionals are fit to practise</p> <p>Kingston University London and St George's (University of London)</p> <p>http://www.hcpc-uk.org/publications/research/index.asp?id=1144</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literature, survey, focus groups and consensus conference with groups including educators, newly qualified professionals and practice leads. • The purpose of the research was to assist in identifying whether any changes were necessary to the SETs by focusing on their central role in ensuring newly qualified professionals are fit to practise. • The research found that most newly qualified professionals were considered adequately prepared for practice. Some recommendations were made for clarifying / refining parts of the standards. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This research formed the basis of a paper to the Professional Liaison Group (PLG) which helped review with SETs. The research findings indicated some areas of the standards which needed refinement and added weight to the PLG's decisions.

2016	<p>Interprofessional education in education and training programmes approved by the Health and Care Professions Council.</p> <p>Keele University</p> <p>(Unpublished)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Literature review; survey; focus groups; interviews. The purpose of the research was to explore the nature and extent of interprofessional education in approved programmes to assist us in reaching conclusions about the scope / content of a new standard of education and training requiring IPE. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The emerging outcomes of the research were included in a paper to the Professional Liaison Group (PLG) which helped review the SETs. Subject to Council approval, a forthcoming consultation will propose an amended standard, with the wording and content of the guidance informed by the research.
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Notes

- Year is generally year of formal publication of final report
- Type of research given in bold is taken from the three 'categories' identified in the research strategy for 2016-2020
- Externally commissioned research only (with the exception of communications market research)