

Agenda Item 15

Enclosure 12

Paper ETC 76/02

Education and Training Committee

**GUIDANCE NOTES ON MAJOR AND
MINOR CHANGES TO COURSES**

From the Secretary

for discussion and agreement

GUIDANCE NOTES ON MAJOR AND MINOR CHANGES TO COURSES

1. **Background**

The Professions Supplementary to Medicine Act, 1960, required the then Boards to impose often arbitrary and artificial definitions of the significance of different types of changes to approved provision.

The HPO allows ETC to revisit these definitions and re-establish them on their merits. This activity is a subject within the guidance needed at item 12 above and will be included in it.

2. **Current Position**

The procedures differ profession by profession and each has some important element of good practice to contribute to the overall exercise.

The information on how this was done under the PSM Act is already embedded in the separate documents for each profession which can be described, in shorthand, as the " JVC Handbooks " and their equivalents.

3. **Options**

The options are the new criteria to be developed.

4. **Recommendations and Timetable**

As part of the work under 12 above, it will be remitted to the consultants to start work on 4 December 2002 for completion by 31 March 2003.

In the meantime the Committee is asked to commend the work undertaken by the Allied Health Professions as the point of departure for any common statements to be made.

Between 5 November and 4 December the Pre-Registration Education and Training Working Group and the (Internal) Processes Working Group should carry out whatever preparatory work they can on the current body of documentation.