

**Health Professions Council
Education & Training Panel – 5 July 2007**

VISITORS' REPORT & PROGRAMME APPROVAL

Executive Summary and Recommendations

Introduction

The attached visitors' report for the following programme has been sent to the education provider and following a 28 day period no representations have been received. The education provider has no conditions of approval to meet.

Education provider	Programme name	Delivery mode
North East Wales Institute of Higher Education	BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy	Part-time

Decision

The Panel is asked to –

accept the visitors' report for the above named programme(s) and approve the programme

or

accept the visitors' report for the above named programme(s) and vary the recommendations made by the Visitors

Background information

None

Resource implications

None

Financial implications

None

Appendices

Visitors report

Date of paper

25 June 2007



Health Professions Council

Visitors' report

Name of education provider	North East Wales Institute
Name and titles of programme(s)	BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy
Mode of Delivery (FT/PT)	Part Time
Date of Visit	27 April 2007
Proposed date of approval to commence	September 2007
Name of HPC visitors attending (including member type and professional area)	Susan Thompson (Occupational Therapy) Carol Walker (Occupational Therapy)
HPC Executive officer(s) (in attendance)	Mandy Hargood
Joint panel members in attendance (name and delegation):	Dr Hastings McKenzie (Chair) Anna Watts (Secretary) Dr Liz Royle Academic Registrar Mrs Claire Brewis Dr Judith Martin Yadzia Williams Stuart Cunningham

Scope of visit *(please tick)*

New programme	<input type="checkbox"/>
Major change to existing programme	X
Visit initiated through Annual Monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>

Confirmation of meetings held

	Yes	No	N/A
Senior personnel of provider with responsibility for resources for the programme	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Programme team	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Placements providers and educators	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Students (current or past as appropriate)	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Confirmation of facilities inspected

	Yes	No	N/A
Library learning centre	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
IT facilities	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Specialist teaching accommodation	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Confirmation that particular requirements/specific instructions (if any) of the Education and Training Committee that have been explored e.g. specific aspects arising from annual monitoring reports.

Requirement (please insert detail)	Yes	No	N/A
1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Proposed student cohort intake number please state	20
---	-----------

The following summarises the key outcomes of the Approvals event and provides reasons for the decision.

Expected date visitors' report submitted to Panel for approval: 5 July 2007

Expected date programme submitted to Panel for approval: 5 July 2007

RECOMMENDATIONS

SET 3. Programme management and resource standards

3.1 The programme must have a secure place in the education provider's business plan.

Recommendation: The Senior Management of the Institute should actively facilitate the innovative all Wales partnership agreement for Occupational Therapy education.

Reason: Although this was evident at programme level it was not evident at institutional level. This activity will be monitored via the HPC annual monitoring process.

3.2 The programme must be managed effectively.

3.3 There must be a named programme leader who has overall responsibility for the programme and should be either on the relevant part of the HPC Register (for the following professions: arts therapists, chiropodists and podiatrists, dieticians, occupational therapists, orthoptists, paramedics, physiotherapists, prosthetists and orthotists and radiographers) or otherwise appropriately qualified and experienced.

Recommendation: The HPC visitors recommend that the funds are ring fenced to appoint a Head of Programme, with professional and educational standing and implemented as planned in 2008.

Reason: The Head of School indicated that there will be further appointments within the occupational therapy department and that one of the posts would be the Head of Programme. The visitors were happy with the response that the Head of Programme would be a priority.

3.12 The resources provided, both on and off site, must adequately support the required learning and teaching activities of the programme.

Recommendation: The Institute should ensure that the programme has a dedicated home base for teaching and storage, which would embed the programme identity within the Institute.

Reason: Currently the occupational therapy department were sharing accommodation with Education and Medicine and there is no storage area which means equipment is carried around and this is a health and safety issue.

3.12 The resources provided, both on and off site, must adequately support the required learning and teaching activities of the programme.

Recommendation: The Institute should ensure that the staff has adequate office space to carry out their academic and pastoral tutoring duties.

Reason: Currently the staff are sharing two offices and this means that there is lack of privacy should they need to talk to a student and there is no personal space for the staff as they are in very close proximity to one another.

Commendations

The visitors commend the programme team for the quality of their enthusiastic and committed students.

The visitors commend the close working relationship of the Occupational Therapy programme staff from North East Wales Institute and Cardiff University for developing the new programme and the all Wales placement opportunities that support the student learning.

The nature and quality of instruction and facilities meets the Standards of Education and Training.

We recommend to the Education and Training Committee of the HPC that they approve this programme (subject to any conditions being met).

Visitors' signatures:

Susan Thompson

Carol Walker

Date: 30 April 2007