

Education and Training Committee

Minutes of the 98th meeting of the Education and Training Committee held as follows:

Date: Wednesday 26 May 2021

Time: 10 am

Venue: By videoconference

Members: Maureen Drake (Chair)
Helen Gough
Luke Jenkinson
Penny Joyce
Kathryn Thirlaway

In attendance:

Ewan Shears, Governance Officer
Brendon Edmonds, Head of Education
Jamie Hunt, Education Manager
Patrick Armsby, Education Officer
Temilolu Odunaike, Education Officer
Claire Amor, Head of Governance
Dipesh Patel, Orthoptics MSc programme co-director, University College London
Leena Patel, Orthoptics MSc programme co-director, University College London
Andrew Dick University College London
Julie Evans, University College London
Alex Addo, University College London
Wing-Chau Tung, University College London
Kelly MacKenzie, Moorfields Eye Hospital
Veronica Greenwood, British and Irish Orthoptic Society
Julie Dowdney, British and Irish Orthoptic Society
Paul Chapman, Health Education England

Public Agenda

Item 1 - Chairs welcome and introduction

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed members, the Executive and representatives from University College London, Moorfields Eye Hospital, British and Irish Orthoptic Society and Health Education England.

Item 2 - Apologies for absence

- 2.1 There were no apologies for absence.

Item 3 - Approval of agenda

- 3.1 The Committee approved the agenda.

Item 4 - Declaration of members' interests

- 4.1 No public interests were declared.

Items for discussion/approval

Item 5 - Non-approval recommendation – University College London, MSc Orthoptics (pre-registration), Full time accelerated

- 5.1 The Committee received a paper from the Executive.
- 5.2 The Committee noted the visitors had recommended that the programme should not be approved, as they were not satisfied that the evidence submitted by the provider sufficiently addressed their concerns around standardisation of the final assessments across the practice-based learning sites. The visitors' concerns were related to the method of clinical competency ratings, which were considered to show a potential lack of objectivity and reliability in the final score. The visitors also considered there to be potential risk that learners could pass the final practice-based learning assessment without meeting all the SOPs.
- 5.3 The Committee noted the education provider had submitted their observations in response to the report and invited the provider to address the Committee. The provider outlined their position.
- 5.4 The Committee further noted the supportive documentation received from Health Education England and the British and Irish Orthoptic Society
- 5.5 The Committee adopted the following resolution - 'The Committee hereby resolves that the remainder of the meeting shall be held in private, because

the matters being discussed relate to the following; any other matter which, in the opinion of the Chair, is confidential or the public disclosure of which would prejudice the effective discharge of the Council's functions. Minutes of this discussion were constrained within the private minutes of the meeting.

- 5.6 Following discussion in the private meeting, where the Committee considered the observations and assurances received, the Committee agreed that there was minimum risk in relation to the unfairness of assessments and noted there was ample opportunity throughout the programme for students to demonstrate, be assessed on and meet all of the SOPs.
- 5.7 The Committee considered that all of the conditions were met and agreed that the programme should therefore be approved.

Item 6 - Any other business

- 6.1 There was no further business.

Item 7 - Date and time of next meeting

- 7.1 10 June 2021 10am

Signed

Date