

PART 1

1 Acknowledgements

The Panel found the Programme Team to be very accommodating to their needs and wish to thank them for the co-ordination of a successful visit. The Panel also wished to thank those who took the time to meet with the Panel throughout the visit.

2 Introduction

This report is in relation to a quality assurance visit to Glasgow Caledonian University's BSc (Hons) Optometry programme, which took place on 11 and 12 October 2018.

The Visitor Panel:

- Liz Jones, Chair.
- Markham May, Lay Member.
- Navneet Gupta, Optometrist and Independent Prescribing.
- Richard Allen, Optometrist and Independent Prescribing.
- Paul Baines, Ophthalmologist.
- Kevin Gutsell, Dispensing Optician (remote).

The Visitors were accompanied by Shaun de Riggs (Approval and Quality Officer for the GOC). Mike Galvin (GOC Education Committee member) also attended in an observational capacity.

The GOC is required to undertake such visits in order to obtain assurance that the standards of teaching and clinical practice within the programme are compliant with the GOC's core competencies and standards.

The Visit was conducted in accordance with the GOC's Optometry Handbook 2015.

2.1 Background

This GOC quality assurance visit to Glasgow Caledonian University's (GCU) BSc Optometry programme took place on 11 and 12 October 2018.

The previous visit to the programme took place on 1 and 2 October 2013 where GCU presented proposals to modify the design of its programme to anticipate future changes in the delivery of ophthalmic services with an increased focus on therapeutics. GCU proposed that the first cohort of students to graduate from the revised programme would be in 2015 and the Panel were supportive of the changes owing to changes to the health service and optometric practise in Scotland.

Following the visit to GCU in October 2013, the Panel recommended to the Education Committee that approval for two years should be granted with the next full Panel visit taking place in 2015 in order that the Panel's concerns with regards to core competencies, patient experience, quality and changes to the programme could be reviewed.

A re-visit to GCU's Optometry programme took place on 18 and 19 February 2015 (as a follow up to the visit on 1 and 2 October 2013). At this visit, the Panel considered that the conditions arising from the 2013 visit had been met.

The Panel imposed two conditions and three recommendations (listed below) and recommended to the Education Committee that the next visit to GCU take place in October 2018 (five years from the visit in 2013).

2.2 Documentation

Prior to the visit, the GOC received pre-visit information from the provider based on the requirements outlined in the GOC Optometry Handbook 2015.

3 Visit Outcomes

Based on the findings, the Panel will recommend the following to the Education Committee:

- That the previous two conditions are met.
- That the previous three recommendations are no longer applicable.
- That no new conditions or recommendations are stipulated.
- That there are two commendations for the programme.

The next quality assurance review is due to take place in five years (October 2023).

3.1 PREVIOUS CONDITIONS

The following conditions were approved by the GOC Education Committee after the previous visit:

Date of Previous Visit: 18 & 19 February 2015.

| Ref. | Description | Due Date | Met / Not Met |
|------|--|-----------------|---------------|
| 1 | The management team proposal regarding the sign off of GOC Stage 1 Core Competencies is implemented with immediate effect. Written evidence must be supplied by 30th April 2015 demonstrating that this process has been effective in addressing the GOC's concerns. | 30th April 2015 | Met |
| 2 | As part of the regular audit of Core Competency logbooks the clinic leads must moderate competency records ensuring they have been fully completed and meet the standard required to validate the achievement of the relevant Competency. | Ongoing | Met |

3.2 PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS

The Panel offered the following recommendations to the providers, which, it is felt, would assist course development and raise standards:

| Ref. | Description | Comments |
|------|---|------------------------|
| 1 | The programme consider good practice identified across the School of Life Sciences and the wider university relating to teaching and learning to drive further quality enhancements to the programme. | Implemented |
| 2 | Within the patient episode logbook, the contact lens clinic records would be enhanced by inclusion of a description of any relevant investigation and diagnosis. | Implemented |
| 3 | The core competency spreadsheet is amended to allow for third attempts to be recorded. | Amended as recommended |

3.3 COMMENDATIONS

| Ref. | Description |
|------|---|
| 1 | Student reflection, as evidenced (undertaken and recorded) in the logbooks reviewed by the Education Visitor Panel at the visit to Glasgow Caledonian University on 11 and 12 October 2018. |
| 2 | The leadership and ethos of the programme. |