
Pre-registration Trainee Pharmacists Specialist (PTPS) Group Meeting
Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 18th October 2010,
50 Eastbourne Terrace, Paddington, London

Present: Amanda Kemp (Chair), Alison Littlewood (Secretary), Helen Middleton, Maria Christou, Clive Moss-Barclay, Janet Gilbertson, Gail Fleming, Samantha Hlambelo, Julie Sowter, Roisin O'Hare, Andrea Hollister, Helen Fawcett, Cath O'Brien (for Margaret Allen) Trevor Beswick.

Observer: Fateha Al-Emran Training Facilitator (pre-registration trainee pharmacists)LPET

In attendance: Ross Leach (Economic Advisor, Medicines, Pharmacy and Industry, Department of Health) , Sue Ambler (DoH)

Apologies: Helen Badham, Siobhan Burke-Adams, Margaret Allen

3 Cost of pre-reg training in the NHS Update. – Item brought forward

Sue Ambler gave a brief introduction to the presentation which had also been given to the Main Committee

R Leach gave the presentation **Hospital Pharmacy Pre-Registration Training Costs**

Final results were presented of the cost data.

The group discussed whether the context in which the figures need to be set should be supported with a statement in order that they are not misinterpreted

Action: It was agreed that Sue Ambler would work on the report and with liaison with committee member (J Gilbertson) to agree the final wording of the supporting statement.
Anonymised data to be sent to members in due course.

1. Minutes of last meeting – 13.July 2010

These were accepted as a true record.

2. Matters arising

Pg 1. 'Innovation within preregistration training' survey. J Gilbertson will ask for MPC to allow regional training leads to have access to the data from their region

4. National Recruitment Scheme.

4.1 Immigration issues following UKBA and MAC consultations

H Middleton reported that she had made a response to the UKBA Consultation on 'limits on immigration'. Interim limits are in place and permanent limits on Tier 2 visas will be in place by April 2011

The types of visas that may be used for non EEA graduates undertaking pre-registration training are as follows:

Tier 1 (Post-study work) - Non-EEA MPharm graduates and MSc OSPAP graduates (Aberdeen University only)

Tier 2 (General (sponsored skilled workers)) - Non-EEA MPharm graduates, MSc OSPAP and OSPAP PgDip graduates at Aberdeen, Aston, Brighton and Sunderland.

It is recommended that all eligible - Non-EEA MPharm graduates and MSc OSPAP graduates (Aberdeen University only) should use Tier 1 Post study work visas.

This is because Tier 1 is a non-sponsored route and there is currently no limit on this type of visa. Permanent limits on the number of Tier 2 visas may result in an insufficient number of permits remaining at the time the graduate applies.

The information relating to the use of Tier 1 and Tier 2 visas was correct at the time of the meeting; however, further updates now mean that the information is incorrect.

Text highlighted in red is no longer applicable and those reading this should make reference to the current information on the Pharmalife website.

Action:

Members should identify 2011 overseas appointees who will require visas and work closely with employers to direct them to the correct route.

Members to inform H Middleton of those identified.

If the shortage occupation list and the resident labour market test are combined in early 2011 this may compromise posts offered for July 2011 intake.

A 'milk-round' (graduate recruitment scheme) could be a solution to the resident labour market test requirements for the 2012 intake onwards

Point of note: expiration of visas. Students should be aware of when visas need to be renewed and avoid unnecessary problems.

4.2 Timetable for 2012 intake

In 2011 GPhC will not produce guidelines or suggest a deadline for acceptance of offers in the recruitment round. PTPS group will produce guidelines.

The group discussed the timeline for recruitment and agreed the closing date of 31st August with an acceptance date of 7th October for the National Recruitment Scheme

It was agreed that an approach should be made to the Company Chemists Association and Association of Independent Multiples to suggest a date that may be mutually acceptable.

Action : T Beswick to raise the issue with CCA and AIM

4.3 Academic references

The new Equality Act, which came into effect on 01 October 2010, does not allow questions to be asked about health and attendance. These questions have been removed from the academic reference for 2nd round 2010.

The Group agreed to continue with an academic reference for MPharm applicants for the 2012 intake of recruitment without the attendance section.

Action: H Middleton to review the reference section and suggest modifications from other reference forms e.g. NES, F1 doctors

Since the meeting- Updated guidance on employment offers and contracts went on the FAQ section of the website for the 2nd round of recruitment.

4.4 Pilot for submitting
hospital entries on line

Action : Members are asked to e -mail H Middleton if they were willing to participate in the pilot as a whole region.

An exemplar for a National person specification for a PRTP will be produced as minimum standard which hospitals can use and modify. The NES example could be a starting point.

Action: H Middleton Helen to circulate the NES example.

4.5 Equality Bill 2010 – implications and changes

The new bill puts all previous legislation under one bill.

All details of the changes are on the webpage.

e.g. Request for adjustments has been removed from the application form but may be put on “invite to interview” letter.

The guaranteed interview scheme is still included

For 2nd round re-applicants information that is no longer acceptable under the Equality Bill will be blanked out. Reasonable adjustments should be made in advance of recruitment in anticipation that applicants have a disability.

Caution

Fixed interview dates that clash with religious festivals may be deemed discriminating

Ranking

Short listing guidelines have been produced.

4.6 Equality monitoring and Equality impact assessment

Codes on the website selected at short listing and appointment will be used to collate equality data.

Data at the appointment stage is incomplete and Leads will be sent reminders to encourage completion.

Discussion took place around panel interviews and offering places to interviewees who do not apply to a Trust. It was agreed that members should emphasize to those interviewing that they should be confident that the process they apply is acceptable to the Trust HR and they have attended recruitment selection training and update.

4.7 Report from 1st round - circulated

More data available in due course.

4.8 Primary care experience for pre-regs from 2012 onwards.

H Middleton would like members to inform her of PCT split posts.

Group agreed to modify the information on PCT experience from the booklet.

Action: J Sowter agreed to look at it.

Other items

Vacation placements

The Pharamlife website can include a web link or contact details to direct students to vacation placements.

Action: Members to send Contact name or web link to H Middleton.

5 Outcomes and destinations data – post September examination

To be discussed at the Focus group.

6. CPPE Website

All PRTPs in England have received notification that they may now attend CPPE workshops and download all materials. They may order 2 hard copies of any materials(unrestricted).

They can have access to MUR assessment from May 2011.

7 Training Managers Meeting 14.10.2010 – A Kemp presented a summary of the key points.

Notes and presentations will be sent out from GPhC.

Comments from members can be sent to A Kemp to be fed back to GPhC.

The group agreed that the lead at GPhC should be contacted and request that members be given advance warning of future changes before communications are sent out to Tutors and trainees.

The group also agreed that, pending approval at the focus group, a representative of GPhC be invited to the PTPSG meeting, with the proviso that they should respond to the Group on any set action points

N Tyers had requested expressions of interest from members for participation in a 'Task and finish group' to consider review of the byelaws regarding premises

Action: members to contact via A Kemp

Dates of Next Meetings: *50 Eastbourne Terrace, Paddington*

- Monday 17th January 2011
- Tuesday 3rd May 2011
- Wednesday 13th July 2011
- Monday 17th October & Tuesday 18th October 2011