Due to restrictions imposed during the current public health emergency we were unable to hold our February meeting of the ECQC in public. As a result, we have produced this summary of the meeting. We will also publish the unconfirmed minutes of the meeting within 14 days of the meeting. The papers discussed can be found in the corporate section of HEIW’s website https://heiw.nhs.wales/.

Although held via videoconferencing, the meeting was carried out as normal in line with due process, with the necessary number of committee members in attendance to form a quorum and for decisions to be made and formally agreed.

1. Welcome and Minutes.

The Chair, Dr Ruth Hall, welcomed everybody to the meeting during this challenging period and Kirstie Moons to her first meeting as the new Dental Dean.

The Committee approved the minutes of its previous meeting held on 8 October 2020.

2. Draft unconfirmed minutes of the Education Advisory Group (EAG)

The committee noted the minutes and was also pleased to note that the EAG had held its inaugural meeting.

3. Covid implications for Education and Training

The Committee received a report providing an overview on the impact of the Covid pandemic on the education and training cycle of health professional students and trainees.

It was highlighted that, through close partnership working, disruption to education had been minimised although challenges were identified in progressing a number of training areas.

The Committee noted the report and acknowledged the significant achievements of minimising the impact to education and training in such a challenging situation.

4. Post graduate Medical and Dental Education update

HEIW seeks, through its Quality Unit, to improve patient care and patient safety through the monitoring and development of high quality education and training.
The report provided the Committee with an update on quality management activity undertaken by HEIW and highlighted areas currently requiring focus.

The report was noted by the Committee.

5. General Medical Council (GMC) survey report and feedback

The GMC survey was received by the Committee. This year’s survey was not mandatory for trainees and trainers due to the impact of Covid and was predominantly focussed on Covid. It was confirmed that the next step was to share the survey results with individual Health Boards and Trusts.

The Committee approved the content of the report and noted that Executive Team had approved wider circulation to Local Education Providers.

6. All Wales Health Professional Education Performance Report for academic year 2019/20

Education for Health Professional students is commissioned by HEIW and provided by Universities under the Health Professional Contracts. The Performance Report provided an update on the performance of these Universities through focussing on key performance indicators.

The Committee noted the performance of education providers.

7. Health Professional Education 2020 National Student Survey (NSS) summary

The student groups covered within the survey included nursing, midwifery, all allied health professionals, and health science. It was confirmed that student satisfaction scores are higher than average in five of the six Welsh Universities contracted by HEIW. This was deemed to reflect the high quality provision of education in these areas.

The Committee noted the NSS survey.

8. Multi-Professional Quality Assurance Architecture

The Committee received and noted the verbal update on the development of the Multi-Professional Quality Assurance Architecture.

9. HEIW Plan for Differential Attainment

The plan outlining HEIW’s approach to addressing differential attainment was received by the Committee. In considering the plan the Committee emphasised
the need for it to enable HEIW’s actions to make a demonstrable difference in such an important area.

The Committee noted the report and requested further information on what data is collected by Universities regarding protected characteristics.

10. BAPIO Award for Services to Medical Education and Training

The Committee congratulated HEIW’s Medical Director, Pushpinder Mangat, on receiving an award from the British Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (BAPIO).

11. Progress Report on Phase 1 of the Health Professional Education Contracts

The Committee noted the update on the progress made in the tender process for Phase 1 of the Health Professional Contracts.

12. Health Professional Education Contracts Phase 1: Evaluation Framework

The Committee noted the overview in respect of the development of the evaluation framework for the tenders received for Phase 1 of the Health Professional Education Contracts.

It was agreed that the Committee will hold a joint meeting with the Audit and Assurance Committee to undertake a review of Phase 1.

13. Phase 2 – Strategic Review of Health Professional Education

A report was received outlining the complexities of the Phase 2 process and recommending a revised timescale for tendering these contracts.

The Committee agreed to recommend to Full Board that a revised 5yr timescale be put in place for Phase 2 of the Strategic Review.

14. Terms of Reference of the new Internal and External Facing Advisory Groups on Education and Training

It was agreed that the Committee recommend to the March Board that it approve the terms of reference for the Committee’s two new subgroups (the Education Advisory Group and the Multi-Professional Education & Quality Group).

15. 2020/21 Health Professional Education Fill Rates and Health Professional Student Allocations 2021/22
It was confirmed that while the approved NHS Wales Education and Training Plan for 2021/22 provided the overall number of students in Wales the purpose of this allocation report was to provide a breakdown of students by Universities.

The Committee noted the proposed allocation plan.

16. Simulation Team Report and Guidance

The Committee noted the presentation on simulation education and training.

17. Professionalising the Role of the Training Programme Director across Secondary Care Training

The report was noted and support was expressed for the action taken to date.


The importance of research as a key enabler across the education and training system was emphasised.

The report was considered and noted by the Committee.

19. AOB

There being no further matters for consideration the meeting was concluded.