

Executive Summary and Recommendations

Approval of Paramedic Programmes

Introduction

There is currently a disparity between the Paramedic threshold entry standard on the SETs and the Paramedic QAA Benchmark Statements. In the absence of current curriculum guidance from the professional body interim curriculum guidance will need to be drawn up to assist those Visitors undertaking Approvals Events for the IHCD and the 33 ambulance training centres. This interim curriculum guidance will be referred to by Visitors until the HPC Curriculum Guidance has been published –scheduled for December 2005.

The interim curriculum guidance will be drawn up by representatives of the professional body and the Ambulance Education Training Advisory Group (a part of the Ambulance Service Association).

Decision

The Committee is requested to note the above.

Background Information

At its last meeting the Committee discussed the issue of Paramedic awards and programmes. The Committee noted that one of the entry routes to the profession was through the certificate awarded by the Institute of Health Care Development (IHCD). The programmes were run at 33 training centres attached to NHS ambulance services.

The Committee was of the view that as the IHCD was awarding a certificate it should be approved by HPC and the 33 ambulance training centres should also be approved. It was agreed that the Executive would prepare a paper setting out the background to this matter and HPC's role and process in approving the IHCD and training centres. The Director hopes to have a paper to this effect for the February meeting.

Resource Implications

None

Financial Implications

None

Background Papers

None

Appendices

None