

Approvals Committee
22 November 2005

Department of Education
Requests for deferral of Approval Visits

Executive Summary and Recommendations

1. Introduction

In undertaking our forward planning project for the 2005/2006 academic year, the Education department has come across a number of Education Providers who are undergoing internal review in 2006/2007 and as such, would like us to delay their approval Visit until that time.

In support of these requests, education providers are using the HPC's statement regarding its intention to co-ordinate with the education provider's internal validation processes wherever possible. While the Education department makes best attempts to do so, this is not a requirement.

As the programmes which are scheduled for a Visit for the 2005/2006 academic year have not been assessed against the QAA benchmark statements, these programmes will have been transferred from the CPSM and have been on the HPC list of approved programmes for two years without having been through a HPC Approval visit.

2. Decision

The Committee is asked to determine:

1. Whether or not those programmes, which have not been assessed against the benchmark statements, and which request a deferral of their Approval Visit on the basis of internal review processes, should be granted a deferral;
and,
2. If a deferral is granted, the maximum time limit that should be permitted;
or
3. If determinations should be made on a case by case basis with reference to the nature of the internal validation

3. Background information

None

4. Resource implications

There are no resource implications.

5. Financial implications

There are no financial implications.

6. Background papers

None

7. Appendices

None