

The University of Edinburgh

Internal Review

Year-on response report on recommendation actions

TPR of: Social Work

Date of Review: 20 & 21 February 2017

The subject area is responsible for reporting on progress with all recommendations, including those remitted to other areas of the University for action.

Please report on progress towards meeting each recommendation. Any urgent recommendation should be highlighted along with a deadline for response.

If any recommendation has been fully addressed please record the action taken and date completed. Any barriers to progress should be highlighted on this report.

<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Timescale for completion</b>	<b>Comment on progress towards completion and/or identify barriers to completion</b>	<b>Completion date</b>
1. The review team recommends that the School and subject area work together to ensure progress achieved in practice learning work is sustained, in particular by maintaining and developing the Practice Learning Fellow role. (School and Subject Area)	September 2018	<p>The post-holder commenced in September 2017. The new Practice Learning Co-ordinator is reviewing and revising the subject area's practice learning strategy and working to enhance our relationships with practice colleagues in the field.</p> <p>In addition, the Grade 4 Professional Services post to support practice learning has been uplifted to Grade 5.</p>	
2. The review team recommends that the School and subject area review and extend existing mechanisms of support for postgraduate tutors to achieve a more consistent experience for both postgraduate tutors and students, and to ensure that all postgraduate students have undertaken sufficient training before taking up tutoring roles. (School and Subject Area)	June 2019	<p>Work has been continuing at School and subject level on this recommendation towards the June 2019 timescale. Points below re-iterate earlier progress, with some updates.</p> <p>The School has defined a plan for the general induction, training and support of PG Tutors. A teaching and student development fellow has been appointed and an explicit part of their job description is to work on cross-school initiatives around tutor development. As part of this, the graduate school have now started a policy for 2017/18 allowing subject areas to offer 3 hours of subject-specific tutor training.</p>	

		<p>The graduate school are continuing to look at how tutor training can result in some form of accreditation to help tutors in their future careers. The Director of Quality Assurance is leading on this. Our aim is that 50% of tutors will complete the Edinburgh Teaching Award, in house in SPS.</p> <p>At the Social Work Subject Area level, each UG non honours course organiser facilitates three meetings per course with PG tutors in order to provide specific course induction and to provide support and guidance to each tutor. Often this will involve an assessment/marketing and feedback session. In general, we aim to engender a collegiate and supportive culture for our PG tutors. As course organisers we support PhD students to progress their teaching careers, including writing references to support PG Tutors submissions towards the Edinburgh Teaching Award.</p>	
3. The review team recommends that the subject area and School consider how the work on assessment and feedback and learning can be enacted, and integrated into School-level strategic planning. (School and Subject Area Learning and Teaching Committee)	June 2019	<p>This recommendation has been on the agenda of the Subject Area Learning and Teaching Committee, the graduate school (through programme directors groups), under-graduate schools and relevant School level committees in 2017/18. The School has advertised for a Deputy Head of School (DHoS) to work with the Directors of Under-Graduate and Graduate Schools to further develop comprehensive services and reviews of teaching and learning provision across the school.</p> <p>At subject level progress has been made, but has been somewhat limited as the L&amp;T committee has met sporadically in this academic year due to staff changes, transitions and the recent industrial action. A named Social Work staff member has been appointed to chair the committee for 2018/19 and this will be a key agenda item to progress.</p>	

4. The review team recommends that the School consider how the subject area can be further supported and integrated; for example, the School undergraduate and postgraduate offices should continue to consider ways to harmonise operations where possible, and the School could support the subject area in its development of internationalisation in the curriculum. (School Management Team)	June 2018	<p>Progress has been made in integrating support functions for the social work subject area into both teaching offices. This includes the coursework elements of practice learning, which both offices will assume responsibility for during the 2018/19 academic year.</p> <p>The new Centenary Chair and Head of Social Work commenced in January 2018. The subject has convened an internationalization working group to develop a working paper for internal agreement on strategy by June 2018. Planning has commenced to launch two new programmes in 2020 in International Social Work and Global Mental Health following a market scoping.</p> <p>At School level, the new Deputy Head of School will have responsibility for harmonizing teaching administration. The DHoS post would commence with a review of processes and ways in which we can further harmonise our provision, and thus enhance student experiences whilst addressing ways in which we might refine administrative procedures.</p>	
Please report on steps taken to feedback to students on the outcomes of the review		<p>Emails sent thanking students for their contribution and informing them of the outcomes.</p> <p>Dissemination via student-staff liaison committees.</p>	