

Anglia Ruskin University
GOC PROVISIONAL APPROVAL QUALITY ASSURANCE VISIT
PGCert Contact Lens
08 July 2022

Report confirmed by GOC	29 September 2022
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART 1 – VISIT DETAILS	3
1.2 Programme details	3
1.3 GOC Education Visitor Panel (EVP)	3
1.4 Purpose of the visit	3
1.5 Programme history	3
PART 2 – VISIT SUMMARY	5
2.1 Visit outcomes	5
2.2 Previous conditions	5
2.3 Previous recommendations	6
PART 3 – CONDITIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS & COMMENDATIONS	6
3.1 Conditions set at this visit	7
3.2 Recommendations offered at this visit	7
3.3 Recommendations offered by GOC Executive	7
PART 4 – ADDITIONAL ISSUES	7
4.1 Third Cohort Intake.....	7
4.2 Approval Status	7

PART 1 – VISIT DETAILS

1.2 Programme details	
Programme title	Postgraduate Certificate Contact Lens Programme (PG Cert CL)
Programme description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The PG Cert in Contact Lens course (the 'programme') commenced in September 2019. • It is a one-year programme and provides a full pathway onto the contact lens register. • This means that the course includes both the teaching, training aspects as well as the practical and assessment elements required for a student to gain entry to the CL specialty register. • This is a standalone qualification with no requirement to meet any other institution's examinations.
Current approval status	Provisionally approved (PA)
Approved student numbers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cohort 1 = 13 Students • Cohort 2 = 5 Students

1.3 GOC Education Visitor Panel (EVP)	
Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carl Stychin – Chair (Lay Member).
Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graeme Stevenson - Dispensing Optician / Contact Lens Optician • Pam McClean – Optometrist / Independent Prescribing • Gail Fleming – Lay Member • Alexander Gorman - Dispensing Optician / Contact Lens Optician
GOC representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aaron Grell – Education Manager • Georgina Carter – Education Officer

1.4 Purpose of the visit	
Visit type	PROVISIONAL APPROVAL QUALITY ASSURANCE VISIT
<p>The purpose of this approval quality assurance visit was to consider if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Anglia Ruskin University's (University) Post Graduate Contact Lens programme (programme) meets the requirements listed in the GOC's Contact Lens handbook and the GOC Education A&QA-Supplementary Documents-List of Requirements; • Whether the evidence submitted in support of conditions 1 & 2, set in February 2021, is sufficient for this action to be deemed met; and • Whether the programme meets the GOC's requirements for it to be granted full approval and make a recommendation to the executive accordingly. <p>This visit took place remotely.</p>	

1.5 Programme history		
Date	Event type	Overview

11 and 12 December 2018	Visit	GOC initial accreditation visit to Anglia Ruskin University's Contact Lens programme.
10 July 2019	Decision	Council grants provisional approval to the proposed programme following the recommendation of the EVP approval visit.
10 September 2019	Visit	Sub Panel follow up and clinic visit prior to the first cohort beginning the Contact Lens programme.
15 and 16 January 2020	Visit	Full panel visit (no visit report drafted due to visit scheduled for 10 and 11 September 2020 following EVP attendance at assessment events in June and August 2020) to Anglia Ruskin University's Contact Lens programme, including OSCEs observation.
25 May 2020	Visit (remote)	Sub Panel visit to Anglia Ruskin University's Quality Management and Process review meeting.
25 June 2020	Visit (remote)	Sub Panel observation of Anglia Ruskin University's Module Assessment Panel meeting and meeting with External Examiner to the programme.
27 August 2020	Visit (remote)	Sub Panel observation of Anglia Ruskin University's Module Assessment Panel meeting.
10 and 11 September 2020	Visit (remote)	Full panel visit to Anglia Ruskin's Contact Lens programme, consolidating the Sub panel visits on 25 June 2020 (Quality Management and process meeting), and 27 August 2020 (Module Assessment panel meeting). The visit on 10 and 11 September 2020 resulted in the previous conditions outstanding at the January 2020 visit agreed as met. An additional six requirements were identified as unmet and six new actions were set.
24 and 25 February 2021	Visit (remote)	Sub Panel visit to Anglia Ruskin's Contact Lens programme. The visit on 24 and 25 February resulted in four previous conditions agreed as met, two previous conditions agreed as unmet, which were superseded by two new conditions set at this visit.
July 2021	Administration	The GOC were informed by the Programme Lead that the remarking of the portfolios was not yet complete, and therefore not ready to be submitted to the GOC.
16 August 2021	Administration	The Programme Lead informed the GOC that not all portfolios had been re-submitted as yet and it was agreed that a proposed visit to the programme in September 2021 would be postponed.
06 September 2021	Administration	The GOC advised ARU that a final meeting/visit could not be arranged until all the required documentation had been received.
February 2022	Administration	The Portfolios were submitted by ARU, and subsequently reviewed by the GOC EVP Sub Panel members.
April 2022	Administration	A targeted one-day visit to ARU was scheduled for Tuesday 24 May 2022.

05 May 2022	Administration	ARU advised the GOC that the proposed visit date would not be feasible. The visit was re-arranged for 8 July 2022.
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PART 2 – VISIT SUMMARY

2.1 Visit outcomes	
The panel recommended full approval for the PGCert Contact Lens programme, that all outstanding conditions and requirements were met and with no new conditions set, with a caveat of next visit (depending on cohort intake).	
Summary of recommendations to the GOC	
Previous conditions	The EVP recommends that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All previous conditions are MET Details regarding the previous conditions are set out in section 2.2.
New conditions	The EVP recommends that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All requirements are MET • No new conditions are set
New recommendations	The EVP recommends that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new recommendations are set • One recommendation set by the GOC Executive Details regarding the recommendation are set out in section 3.3.
Approval Status	The EVP recommends that: <p>The programme is awarded full approval</p> Details regarding approval status are set out in section 4.2.
Actual student numbers	13 in 2019/20 cohort and five in 2021/22
Next visit	Another visit has not been scheduled as the course is no longer admitting students. The schedule for a next visit will be dependent on when/if there is a further intake.
Factors to consider when scheduling next visit e.g. when students are in, hospital, audit etc.	At a time that enables the panel to speak with students.

2.2 Previous conditions		
The conditions listed below are extracted from the visit report of 25 February 2021		
Requirement number	Condition number and description	Status
C3.5	When applicable, each individual student must maintain an accredited record of his or her PBL. This record must provide an opportunity for students to reflect	As a result of discussions held, and evidence submitted (including the pre-visit documentation) on

	<p>on their strengths and weaknesses with comment from practice supervisors.</p> <p>ARU must meet with Supervisors to outline their responsibilities more fully in assessing student work including but not limited to; clinical decision making, clinical deficiencies and case recognition.</p>	<p>and prior to this visit, the EVP recommends this condition is MET.</p>
C4.1	<p>Assessments must measure achievement appropriately.</p> <p>ARU to re-mark all portfolios with two independent markers, not restricted to but including specific attention to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clinical decision making – appropriate outcome and follow up. 2. Clinical deficiencies – record keeping, use of grading scales and recording the use of fluorescein. 3. Recognition of cases where it appears that the clinical findings recorded appear to be overly simplistic. 	<p>As a result of discussions held, and evidence submitted (including the pre-visit documentation) on and prior to this visit, the EVP recommends this condition is MET.</p>

2.3 Previous recommendations

The recommendations listed below are extracted from the visit report of 25 February 2021

Recommendation	Description	Comments
Recommendation 1	<p>ARU to give due consideration to reviewing and enhancing the methods of supervision for the programme and the marking of assessments to be implemented for future cohorts. The panel expect this to be addressed in the next annual monitoring submission to the GOC.</p>	<p>The panel was assured by the evidence submitted prior to, and discussions held during, the visit that this recommendation has been addressed.</p>

PART 3 – CONDITIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS & COMMENDATIONS

Conditions are applied to training and assessment providers if there is evidence that the GOC requirements are not met.

Recommendations indicate enhancements that can be made to a programme, these may not be directly linked to compliance with GOC requirements.

3.1 Conditions set at this visit

The unmet requirements for this visit are set out below along with the conditions that are required to meet the requirements.

No conditions were set at this visit

3.2 Recommendations offered at this visit

The EVP offers the following recommendations to the provider.

No recommendations were offered at this visit

3.3 Recommendations offered by GOC Executive

The GOC offers the following recommendations to the provider

A6.2	Providers must provide sufficient information to the GOC, as requested, and in a timely manner.
Recommendation 1	ARU should consider how it ensures information requested by GOC is submitted on time.
Rationale	Recommendation set due to the delays demonstrated in the provider submitting the portfolios to the GOC for review.

PART 4 – ADDITIONAL ISSUES

4.1 Third Cohort Intake

Background	The provider informed the GOC of their intention to no longer admit further cohorts to this programme.
Conclusions	The panel Recommend that if the provider were to admit a third cohort, we would visit the university when the third cohort were in one of the block release phases. This would allow us to assess teaching, speak to students and possibly even observe OSCE's.
Rationale	The panel were informed by ARU that they are unlikely to change stance on admitting a third cohort with review of moving from PGCert to PGDip. If they do adapt the PGCert to meet the GOC's new education and training requirements as a PGDip they would expect that next cohort would be 2024/25. This adaptation would be noted by the GOC as per our quality assurance arrangements for providers adapting existing GOC-approved qualifications.

4.2 Approval Status

Background	The panel was asked to review the programme against the Contact Lens handbook and the list of requirements and make a recommendation on the programme's approval status.
Conclusions	The panel recommends that the programme be granted full approval .

Rationale	<p>The panel was sufficiently assured that the programme could be recommended for full approval as evidence submitted prior to the visit, and obtained through discussions during the visit, demonstrated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• That all GOC requirements could be deemed met and the programme has no outstanding conditions.• Trainees who have completed the course have met the GOC requirements and are viewed as safe to practise.
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