

**Health Professions Council  
Approvals Committee 17th May 2006**

**Arrangements for Approvals Panel meetings**

**Executive Summary and Recommendations**

**Introduction**

At its meeting on 22 November 2005, the Committee agreed that Approvals Panels should meet on a monthly basis to consider Visitors' reports, annual monitoring reports and major and minor changes to programmes.

At its meeting on 2 March 2006, the Committee agreed that Approvals Panels should continue for the time being, particularly in the light of the expected number of visits and returns from the annual monitoring process.

It is proposed that the arrangements for Panel meetings should be reviewed by the Committee at its meeting on 2 November 2006. A paper would be prepared for that meeting, reviewing the experience of operating the Panels during 2006 and especially during the peak period of considering Visitors' reports and annual monitoring reports, which is expected to end in October. The paper would also set out the corporate governance implications of any changes to the arrangements and the commitments which the HPC has made in respect of the Approval Committee's role (see the HPC's publication "Key Decisions from our Consultation on Standards of Education and Training and the Approvals Process.")

In the interim, with the agreement of the members who were due to attend the Panel meeting in June, the Approvals Panel will now meet on 13 June after the Education and Training Committee, to make more effective use of resources.

**Decision**

The Committee is asked to agree that the Executive should prepare a paper as set out above, for consideration at the meeting on 2 November 2006.

**Background information**

Approvals Committee 22 November 2005 - Enclosure 9 (Paper AC 49/05) and Minutes - Item 17.

**Resource implications**

None.

**Financial implications**

None.

**Appendices**

None.

**Date of paper**

18th April 2006.