

# Degree apprenticeships in Occupational Therapy– where do we go from here?

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# Learning outcomes

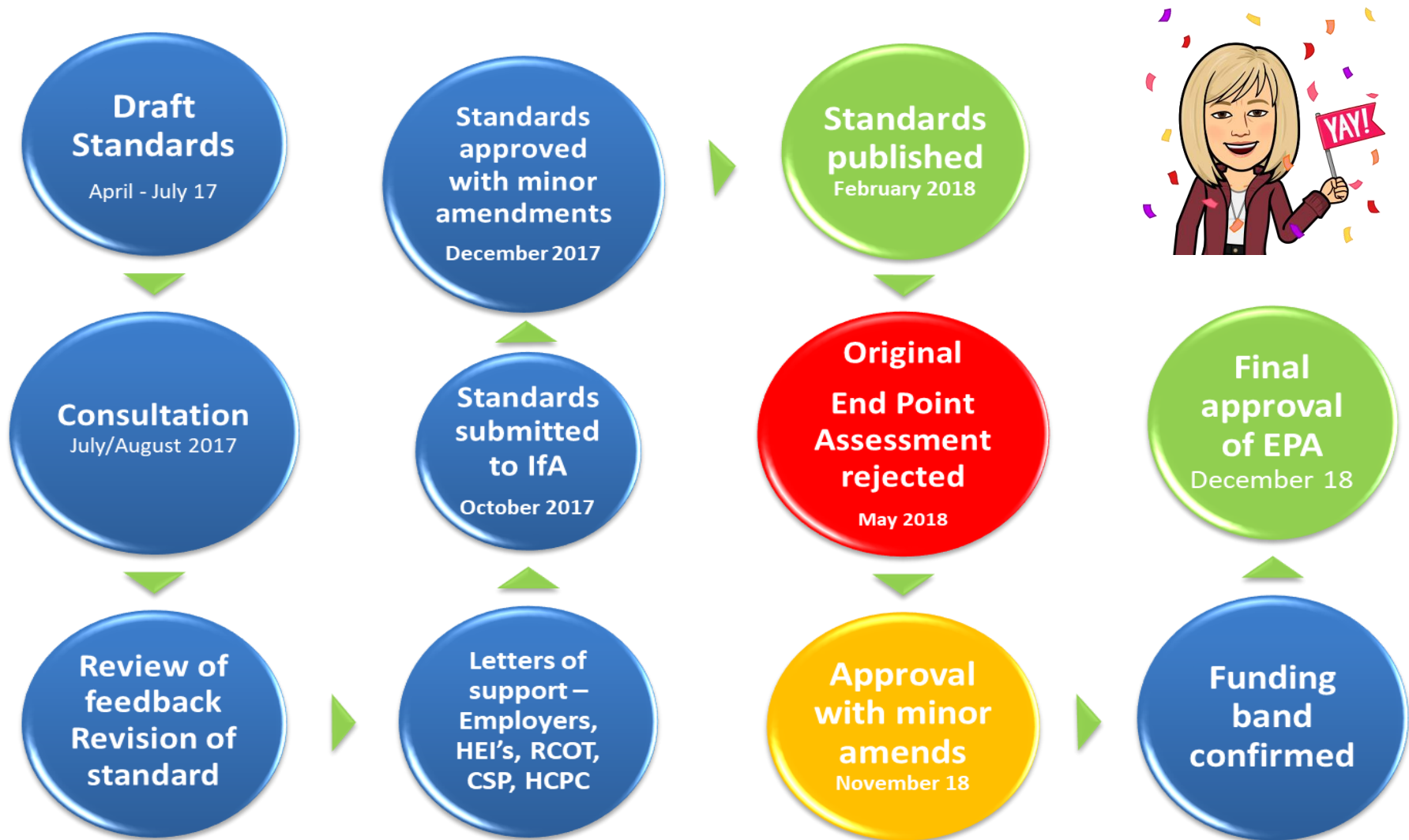
- To clarify and explore the potential of an apprenticeship route, analysing the benefits and challenges for the key stakeholders (apprentices, employers, education providers and our profession).
- To debate possible options, share strategies and to consider methods to further develop and support this new route to qualification.

# The opportunity

- Previous success with innovative programmes
  - SHU/Lincolnshire - BSc (Hons) Practice Based Learning
  - Coventry University – Part time In-service route
- Loss of education commissions/bursaries
- Apprenticeship Levy
- Continued need for local provision
- Maintaining opportunity and widening participation

## **Background**

- **Institute for Apprenticeships**
- **National development (England)**
- **Three stages**
  - Expression of Interest (EOI) – Nov 16
  - Standard development
  - End Point Assessment Plan



## **Apprenticeship structure**

- BSc Honours Degree approved by the HCPC and accredited by the RCOT/CSP is the required underpinning qualification for the integrated level 6 degree apprenticeship
- The apprenticeship will comprise a total of 360 credits and conform to university quality assurance requirements for the award of credit at levels 4, 5 and 6.
- 340 credits will be dedicated to on-programme training and assessment. The final 20 credits at level 6 of the programme will be dedicated to the EPA.
- Level 7 pathway also now approved

## End Point Assessment

- EPA is about End Point NOT on-programme assessment
- Aims to rigorously assess that an apprentice can perform the occupation they have been trained in and meets the duties, knowledge, skills and behaviours set out in the standard
- Uses at least 2 assessment methods that assure consistency

# End Point Assessment

- Assessment Method 1
  - Demonstration of Practice – 3 Stations
    - Assessment and Intervention planning
    - Activity Analysis
    - Occupational Performance
- Assessment Method 2
  - Professional Discussion



## **Current Position**

- Sheffield Hallam University – Programme commenced in April
- Coventry University – due to commence September
- Other universities in approval/conditions stage
- NHS Highlands and Islands interested

## Local Implementation

- Apprenticeship levy approval
- Commissioning
- Post identification
- Permanent or Temporary contract
- A4C Banding
- Job Description and person specification
- Application process

# Developing An Apprenticeship Programme

- Working with Stakeholders - key to success and sustainability
- New and different not 'shoehorning' existing provision into new format
- Working with Apprenticeship Office/s
- Developing the documentation - level of detail required
- Approval Event - HCPC, RCOT, University Panel, Apprenticeship standards
- Establishing Workplace Mentors and training
- Identifying Placement Capacity - key to success and meeting HCPC SoPs and WFOT standards

# Recruitment and Tripartite Agreements

- Starting point is the apprenticeship standards.
- Tenders / Frameworks / Procurement
- Close communication with local partners:
  - Apprenticeship managers
  - Potential apprentices
  - Service Managers
- Close communication with university team:
  - Business Development Manager, Apprenticeships
  - Admissions Team
  - Principal Lead in Healthcare Education Review

## **End Point Assessment**

- Register of EPA organisations
- Application (Apprenticeship standard and course content)
- RCOT Timeframe
- IDA EPA team cannot be involved in any teaching delivery
- Contract required if external to complete your IDA EPA

# Monitoring Processes

## Apprentice

- Tripartite meetings
- Work-Based Mentors – clarity of role, induction

## Accreditation

- RCOT reviews

## Internal Monitoring

- Internal monitoring
- E-Portfolio system

# Occupational Therapy Integrated Degree Apprenticeship Forum

- The inaugural meeting of the Occupational Therapy Integrated Degree Apprenticeship Forum was held in June.
- Representatives from Canterbury Christ Church University, University of Chichester, Coventry University, University of East Anglia, University of Northampton and Sheffield Hallam University met together with...
- Anita Cooper, United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust and Chair of the trailblazer group, and Caroline Grant, Royal College of Occupational Therapists to the meeting.
- Meetings will be held tri-annually with practice partners joining the membership of future meetings.
- The group were delighted to learn of the diversity in apprenticeship provision and the demand for this route to practice. Approximately 150 apprentices will be commencing pre-registration occupational therapy education over the next 12 months as programmes develop







# Discussion and Questions



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