

**NHS Education for Scotland**

**Education and Quality Committee**

**Terms of Reference**

1. **Constitution/context**

1.1 The NHS Education for Scotland (NES) Board has established a Committee to be known as the *Education and Quality Committee*, hereafter referred to as the Committee, which will operate within the terms of the Board’s Standing Orders; Standing Financial Instructions and the Board Code of Conduct.

1.2 The Committee will fulfil its duties in line with relevant statutory and regulatory requirements.

* 1. Specifically, the Committee will take cognisance of the fact that most health professional education and training within the UK is governed by UK statutes and overseen by UK regulators, and that many of the curricula and outcomes are determined at a UK level, by Higher Education Institutions, Royal Colleges and Statutory regulators.

1. **Role**

2.1 The role of the Committee is to:

* provide assurance to the NES Board that effective arrangements are in place to plan, commission, deliver and quality manage all of NES’s education and training provision in line with the organisation’s Strategic Plan
* advise the NES Board, when appropriate on where, and how, its education systems and assurance framework may be strengthened and developed further and
* provide assurance to the NES Board that effective arrangements are in place for the educational and quality governance of the NHS Scotland Academy accelerated education and training activities.

1. **Membership**

3.1 Full membership of the Committee shall include at least four non-executive Directors of the NHS Board and may include one co-opted member with non-voting rights.

1. **Quorum**

4.1 – 4.7 [**Quorum (Generic ToRs)**](https://nes.scot.nhs.uk/media/y5cpi3ru/approved-board-generic-committee-tors-revised-2024.docx)

1. **Attendees**

5.1 – 5.2 [**Quorum (Generic ToRs)**](https://nes.scot.nhs.uk/media/y5cpi3ru/approved-board-generic-committee-tors-revised-2024.docx)

1. **Private Member Meetings**

6.1 [**Private Member Meetings (Generic ToRs)**](https://nes.scot.nhs.uk/media/y5cpi3ru/approved-board-generic-committee-tors-revised-2024.docx)

1. **Frequency of Meetings**

7.1 The Committee shall normally meet four times per year. The Chair of the Committee, may within reason, convene additional meetings if they deem this necessary, in consultation with the relevant executive lead.

1. **Authority**

8.1 [**Authority (Generic ToRs)**](https://nes.scot.nhs.uk/media/y5cpi3ru/approved-board-generic-committee-tors-revised-2024.docx)

1. **Responsibilities and Duties**

9.1 Provide assurance to the NES Board that, where NHS education and training is subject to statutory regulatory oversight, the requirements of the relevant regulator are being met.

9.2 Provide assurance to the NES Board regarding the effective management and improvement of the quality of NES’s Health and Social Care education and training activities and outcomes; including internally regulated activities, Credit Rated Programmes, and leadership development activities.

9.3 Seek assurance that there is a robust and effective clinical and care assurance process in place in NES.

9.4 Seek assurance that strategies, policies, structures, responses to consultations and processes for the governance of Health and Social Care education and training have taken a forward looking and strategic view.

9.5 Seek assurance in relation to progress with the implementation of education and learning strategies and policies.

9.6 Seek assurance that arrangements are in place to identify and embed good and innovative practice across NES in ways that enhance the quality of the Health and Social Care education and training provided.

9.7 Seek assurance of the effective performance, monitoring, management and value of Health and Social Care education and training programmes and contracts, including the identification of impact (including outcomes) or intended impact, where possible.

9.8 Ensure appropriate governance in respect of Board delegated strategic risks. Review risk identification, assessment, and mitigation, in line with the NES Board’s risk appetite, and agree appropriate escalation.

9.9 Monitor compliance of Health and Social Care education and training activities with the statutory and regulatory requirements of equity, equality legislation, human rights, person centred care and participation and Government policy and other relevant policies and seek assurance in relation to the Board delegated equality and diversity outcomes relating to educational quality.

9.10 Seek assurance as to the effective management of Health and Social Care educational research programmes.

9.11 Seek assurance relating to the key strategic engagement of partners and users across Health and Social Care, including approaches to integration that impact on service delivery.

9.12 Seek assurance of continuous improvement in relation to Health and Social Care user feedback, including learner satisfaction, fill rate, retention, attainment and progression.

9.13 Take steps to ensure there is an acceptable balance between the value of the information received by the Committee and the time and other costs it takes to acquire and process it.

9.14 Scrutinise, approve, or note annual reports as appropriate, in relation to the statutory regulation of health and social care education; and other areas of responsibilities as delegated by the NES Board.

9.15 Provide assurance to the NES Board in relation to the education and quality assurance for the work of the NHS Scotland Academy in line with the educational statutory function of the NES Board. The Education and Quality Committee’s NHS Scotland Academy delegated remit is as per Appendix I.

9.16 The Committee will deal with any such matters as may be assigned to the Committee by the Board or other Standing Committees.  The Audit and Risk Committee may assign activity related to Internal Audit Reports.

1. **Reporting arrangements**

10.1 - 10.5 [**Reporting Arrangements (Generic ToRs)**](https://nes.scot.nhs.uk/media/y5cpi3ru/approved-board-generic-committee-tors-revised-2024.docx)

**11. Review**

11.1 [**Review (Generic ToRs)**](https://nes.scot.nhs.uk/media/y5cpi3ru/approved-board-generic-committee-tors-revised-2024.docx)

11.2 The Committee will undertake a self-assessment of their performance and effectiveness after every meeting and highlight any steps for further improvement to the way they conduct business.

1. **Conduct of Business**

12.1 [[As per the](https://www.nes.scot.nhs.uk/media/eahhvzhx/standing-orders-approved-10-02-22.docx) **[Board Standing Orders](https://www.nes.scot.nhs.uk/media/eahhvzhx/standing-orders-approved-10-02-22.docx)**](https://nes.scot.nhs.uk/media/yiwlsctm/approved-standing-orders-2025.docx)

Della Thomas

Board Secretary

February 2025

**Appendix I**

**NHS Scotland Academy Delegated governance and scrutiny to the NES Education and Quality Committee**

Review, scrutinise and approve education and quality developmental and performance reports on behalf of the NES and NHS Golden Jubilee (NHSGJ) parent Boards, to ensure that:

1. key strategic partners are effectively and appropriately engaged and involved including for example, universities, the regulators, and health and social care partners, including young people and school-based pathways.
2. the education and training planned for or provided by, the NHS Scotland Academy, is subject to the appropriate statutory regulatory oversight, and the requirements of the relevant regulators are met.
3. the education and training planned for or provided by, the NHS Scotland Academy, is appropriately accredited.
4. the NHS Scotland Academy education and training activities and outcomes; activities are effectively managed; quality assured; subject to continuous improvement and impact is measured and achieved.
5. arrangements are in place to identify and embed good and innovative practice across NES and NHSGJ in ways that enhance the quality of the education and training provided.
6. continuous improvement in relation to user feedback, complaints, including learner satisfaction, retention, attainment and progression is embedded in the management and delivery of the NHS Scotland Academy education and training programmes.
7. governance processes and quality management controls are in place relating to the delivery of NHS Scotland Academy technology enhanced education and training.
8. educational and quality related risks are identified, mitigated and reported.
9. NHS Scotland Academy educational and quality governance is reported annually to the NES Audit and Risk Committee as part of the Education and Quality Committee Annual Report.