

3.5

Health and Social Care

Lead Organisation	Background	Targets / Milestones
<p>University of Brighton</p>	<p>The University of Brighton's Foundation Degree in Health and Social Care was validated in 2005 and is being run as a pilot at the University Centre Hastings. It is taught by a team of lecturers from the University of Brighton and the Social Care Sector. The first level of the Foundation Degree can also lead to the Registered Managers Award (RMA, NVQ4) and/or NVQ4 Health and Social Care. These qualifications are requirements for occupational competence in social care and are therefore the priority for organisations in the sector. The Foundation Degree is based on the successful programme to deliver the Registered Managers Award to over fifty managers in East Sussex. It has been developed to provide an opportunity for continuing professional development for staff in social care. Such opportunities are limited in this sector and the development seeks to improve the quality and range of training and professional development beyond NVQ3 level. Progression to professional qualifications including social work and, when appropriate, some health professions, would increase the career development opportunities for staff in social care. The Foundation Degree in Health and Social Care could be offered in a number of locations in East and West Sussex depending on demand. Our work needs to include an assessment of the possible role of e-learning and the need to schedule teaching sessions out of normal working hours. This would widen participation and provide more opportunities for staff in health and social care to progress to a range of qualifications and outcomes. Local provision is seen as essential to attract more students into higher education provision.</p>	<p>1 Deliver the Foundation Degree in Health and Social Care at a wide range of FE locations across Sussex</p> <p>1.1 Agreement with at least 2 of the following colleges on the delivery of the Foundation Degree in Health & Social Care: Sussex Downs College • Northbrook College Sussex • Central Sussex College • Chichester College September 2007</p> <p>1.2 60 additional students on the Foundation Degree in Health & Social Care September 2007</p> <p>2 Common academic and credit framework across the delivery partners which allows maximum flexibility for learners September 2007</p> <p>3 Mapped and developed progression routes for foundation graduates into professional and non-professional degrees at the Universities of Brighton, Chichester and Sussex and the Open University in the South East</p> <p>3.1 Map of progression routes into the Foundation Degree in Health and Social Care September 2007</p> <p>3.2 Agreement on progression from the Foundation Degree in Health and Social Care to at least two of the following: A Management qualification in Health and Social Care • A Professional qualification e.g. Social Work • A Health and Social Care Degree September 2008</p> <p>4 Develop enhanced possibilities for credit transfer between FE and HE providers of foundation degrees across Sussex</p> <p>4.1 Reach agreement with OU on credit transfer in relation to the Foundation Degree in Health and Social Care Sept 2007</p> <p>5 Liaise with local statutory employers in the health and social care sector to ensure continued relevance of the programme to employer and learner needs</p> <p>6 Develop a common academic and credit framework across a range of HEIs providing post qualifying social work training under the revised GSCC post qualifying framework</p> <p>7 Match provision from foundation to post qualifying level with local employer needs as represented by a range of employers and bodies.</p> <p>7.1 Social care staff able to access single modules for CPD September 2007</p> <p>7.2 Increased range of specialist modules at level 2 of the Foundation Degree (NQF level 5) September 2007</p>
Key Partners		
<p>Bexhill College, Central Sussex College, Chichester College, University of Chichester, Northbrook College Sussex, The Open University in the South East, University of Sussex, Sussex Council of Training Providers (SCTP) members as appropriate, Sussex Downs College</p>		

Health and Social Care

Activities 2006–08

We will work to develop credit transfer systems, new routes for progression and a wider range of modules for learners to choose from. Initially we will do this through networking with higher education (HE) providers, particularly the University of Chichester and the Open University in the South East. We will work with the CoVE and Sussex Downs College to explore whether they could deliver the Foundation Degree in Health & Social Care, which would result in wider delivery of the course, development of staff expertise, and sharing of good practice. We will develop the use of individual modules for continued professional development opportunities, identifying and marketing those that are suitable, and developing new modules as required. This will support our work towards increasing student numbers as we are able to provide more choice and meet more of the sector's needs.

We will look to widen access to those coming from other courses by developing opportunities for accreditation of prior or experiential learning (APEL). We will seek to develop paper free assessment methods to improve the capacity to assess NVQ qualifications as part of the Foundation Degree in Health and Social Care. Working in partnership with other colleges, we will review the potential for delivery of the Foundation Degree in Health and Social Care by other colleges in Sussex, including Bexhill College and Northbrook College Sussex. We will develop level 2 of the Foundation Degree in Health and Social Care currently offered by the University of Brighton to meet needs of potential users in the sector and widen progression possibilities, creating new modules at this level to encourage a greater take up of CPD opportunities.

We will work towards increasing the intake of the Foundation Degree in Health and Social Care to support the delivery through additional providers, through direct contact with a range of organisations including selected domiciliary care providers and East Sussex County Council Adult Care. We will also promote the course widely through printed and online media, and to individuals holding suitable qualifications from which they might wish to progress to the Foundation Degree.

We will focus significantly on progression, looking at possibilities to develop new progression routes from the Foundation Degree, either to social work training or within the NHS as assistant practitioner roles develop. We will also look at developing a 'top-up to a degree' award at NQF level 6 for Management in Social Care, providing an additional progression route, and we will undertake a mapping exercise for progression routes into the Foundation Degree to help gain a better knowledge of potential progression routes in social care. We will also work to link the Foundation Degree in Health and Social Care to the Social Work Qualification and Post Qualifying Framework Progression for Social Workers.

