Workshop A

The Good Practice Assessors and Verifiers See in Practitioners Portfolios.

Dr Anne Robbins Dept of Public Health, Birmingham City University
West Midlands Public Health Practitioner Development Scheme
Focus of Workshop

- Within the context of the current system
- From the perspective of the West Midlands Public Health Practitioner Development Scheme
- Specifically from the perspective of providing support to practitioners
Outline of Workshop

- Look at the guidance
- What the Assessors Say
- What the Practitioners Say
- What the Verifiers Say
- Supplementary support
- Your views
What the Guidance Says:

- “A portfolio consists of a number of commentaries with their associated supporting evidence, a commentary being your account of your role in a piece of work, which is linked to the standards and indicators being claimed.” 2.3 Planning your portfolio (p11)

- “The standards recognise that knowledge supports practice, so they do not have separate knowledge and practice statements. However assessors and verifiers will be expecting to see evidence, which demonstrates how you have gained knowledge in an area, which has then underpinned and supported the work that you have done.” 2.4 Demonstrating knowledge, understanding and application in practice (p12)

- “Knowledge may have been gained through learning on formal, accredited courses; on the job learning; learning through attending meetings/ conferences; private study or other means. It is important that you are able to describe clearly what you have understood from that learning and how you have applied it in practical examples.” 2.4 Demonstrating knowledge, understanding and application in practice (p12)
Views of Assessors: Good Practice from Practitioners

- Clarity of Presentation
- Clear signposting
- Clarity of the individuals role in tasks
- Relevant evidence presented
- Maintaining focus on submissions

Challenges
- Being concise in giving feedback whilst not coaching
- Understanding the standards in practice
West Midlands Response

- **Writing Sets for Practitioners**
  - Focus on writing
  - Examples offered
  - Feedback offered on drafts (not pre-assessed)
  - Online platform
Views of Practitioners: Good Practice in Assessing

- Timely turnaround in assessments being completed
- Being specific in the feedback that is given
West Midlands Response

- **Assessor Network**
  - Quarterly Meetings to discuss pertinent issues
  - Online platform
  - Trial – aligning assessors to practitioners from the onset
Views of Verifiers: Good Practice -

- ...from Practitioners
  - Clear signposting
  - Avoidance of partial acceptance?
  - Clarity of currency

- ...from Assessors
  - Clarity of standards accepted and why
Good Practice for All

- Avoidance of level creep in terms of level of:
  - knowledge expected
  - and practical demonstration/application

Formerly level 5 – ‘Safe Pair of Hands?’
Examples of Knowledge and Evidence for Portfolio Development

- Resource designed by BCU to support Practitioners and Assessors in the West Midlands
- Is in the process of being developed
- Is based on the current system
Your Experience of Good Practice

- Practitioners
- Assessors
- Verifiers
Thank you for taking part

Anne.robbins@bcu.ac.uk