

# Education quality assurance – Course change review report

Report date:

06/08/2026

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## Documentary review details

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|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Inspection ID                  | UBR_2308_BA_MA                                                                                                              |
| Course provider                | University of Bradford                                                                                                      |
| Validating body (if different) | <a href="#">Click or tap here to enter text.</a>                                                                            |
| Course name                    | BA Social Work and MA Social Work                                                                                           |
| Mode of study                  | Full time                                                                                                                   |
| Proposed first intake          | 01/09/2026                                                                                                                  |
| Maximum student cohort         | BA - 116<br>MA - 71                                                                                                         |
| Review type                    | Course change                                                                                                               |
| Review team                    | Registrant Inspector - Deborah Brown<br>Lay Inspector - Rebecca Regler<br>Education Quality Assurance Officer – Sam Jameson |
| Review team recommendation     | Approved                                                                                                                    |
| Regulator decision             | Approved                                                                                                                    |
| Regulator decision date        | 25/08/2026                                                                                                                  |

## About the review

1. The University of Bradford have identified that they are requesting to make changes to their Social Work England approved BA Social Work and MA Social Work courses.
2. The proposed changes include alterations to module aims, curriculum content, learning outcomes and assessment methods. The information submitted by the course provider highlight how the modules have been updated and refreshed to better reflect contemporary social work practice.

3. As part of the course change request process, the course provider was asked to submit information regarding the course change and supporting documentary evidence. In addition to this the course provider was asked additional questions about how the education and training standards and professional standards would be impacted by the changes.

4. Inspector partners were then recruited to review the course change, subsequent further evidence requests were made to the course provider and responses and supporting evidence was provided. Within their evidence submission the course provider identified that the following education and training standards were impacted by the changes, 4.1, 4.2, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.8, 4.9 and 4.13.

## Findings

### Standard 4.1

5. As identified above the proposed changes include alterations to module aims, curriculum content, learning outcomes and assessment methods. The information submitted by the course provider highlight how the modules have been updated and refreshed to better reflect contemporary social work practice.

6. Modules which are to be co-taught across both BA and MA programmes have learning outcomes which broadly differentiate between level 4, 5 and level 7, meaning that assessments will be measured at different levels.

7. The inspectors identified that the updated learning outcomes and assessment methods have a clearer application to the education and training standards and social work practice, enabling students to demonstrate knowledge and skills which relate to current social work practice. Additional narrative and documentary evidence demonstrated how the professional standards will be linked to each module. The inspectors agreed that this standard was met.

### Standard 4.2

8. The course provider held two consultation events with key stakeholders and partners as part of the planning process for these changes. Additional evidence and confirmation from the course provider identified that the social work team have scheduled and recurring time planned in with the Experts by Experience group and coordinators. The course provider identified that the social work department are currently working on the formal terms of reference for these meetings and will be agreed with the Experts by Experience group and members to re-start from August 2026. Training on university governance and what the role involves will also be provided to the members of the Experts by Experience group. The inspectors agreed that this standard was met.

### Standard 4.4

9. Documentary evidence submitted by the course provider indicated the key modules that have been changed to reflect developments in social work research, policy and practice.

10. The inspectors identified it was clear that the module descriptors of the children and family module had been updated to reflect contemporary practice and guidance, incorporating more detail within the outlined syllabus. The inspectors noted that the new domestic abuse module responds to government guidance and appears to be an appropriate alternative to the leadership module. Additional information provided clarity regarding where the new domestic abuse module sits (in the BA programme only) and the course provider identified how these themes will be incorporated into the relevant MA modules. The inspectors agreed that this standard was met.

#### Standard 4.5

11. Information submitted by the course provider identified changes to the two key modules which focus on social work theories and methods, including an increase in the assignment word limit and minor changes to learning outcomes.

12. Initial and additional evidence submitted by the course provider identified the rationale regarding the co-teaching of students at different levels and how this will work on the courses. The additional evidence also included guidance for students about the different levels of assessment which is clear and helpful. The course provider confirmed which law modules remained in place and the updated module descriptors were provided to support this course change review. The inspectors agreed that this standard was met.

#### Standard 4.6

13. Documentary evidence identified where and how social work practitioners/professionals contribute to teaching and learning on the courses. The new domestic abuse module highlighted examples of learning from other professionals such as the police and legal advocates. Information contained within the mapping document identified that students would have the opportunity learn from experts in their field, one example given was of an external guest lecturer from a youth counselling service.

14. The inspectors agreed that this standard was met, however as a result of their review of the documentary evidence, they are setting a recommendation against standard 4.6. The recommendation is for the course provider to consider how to develop opportunities for students to learn with students on other professional programmes and/or from professions other than social work.

#### Standard 4.8

15. The assessment mapping and guidance submitted by the course provider identified the diversity of assessment methods within the modules which have been changed, including the use of presentations, VLOGs, digital storytelling and completion of assessment reports and care plans. Additional evidence submitted by the course provider clearly explained the different assessments used to meet the required level of learning for both the BA and MA, including how the professional standards will be linked to each module. The inspectors agreed that this standard was met.

#### Standard 4.9

16. Documentary evidence submitted by the course provider highlighted the modules which have been changed and identified appropriate sequencing of learning outcomes in line with the different levels of study, including how these are incrementally met for both the MA and BA. The inspectors agreed that this standard was met.

#### Standard 4.13

17. The inspectors were satisfied that the proposed module changes show evidence of how social work research and critical analysis of evidence will be included within the delivery of the MA and BA. Module learning outcomes indicated that students will be assessed on their ability to make use of the evidence base and is appropriate to their level of study. The inspectors agreed that this standard was met.

### Conclusions

18. The inspectors are recommending that the change be approved.

### Regulator decision

19. Course change approved.