

Academic Programme Taskforce (APT) 2026-27

September 2026

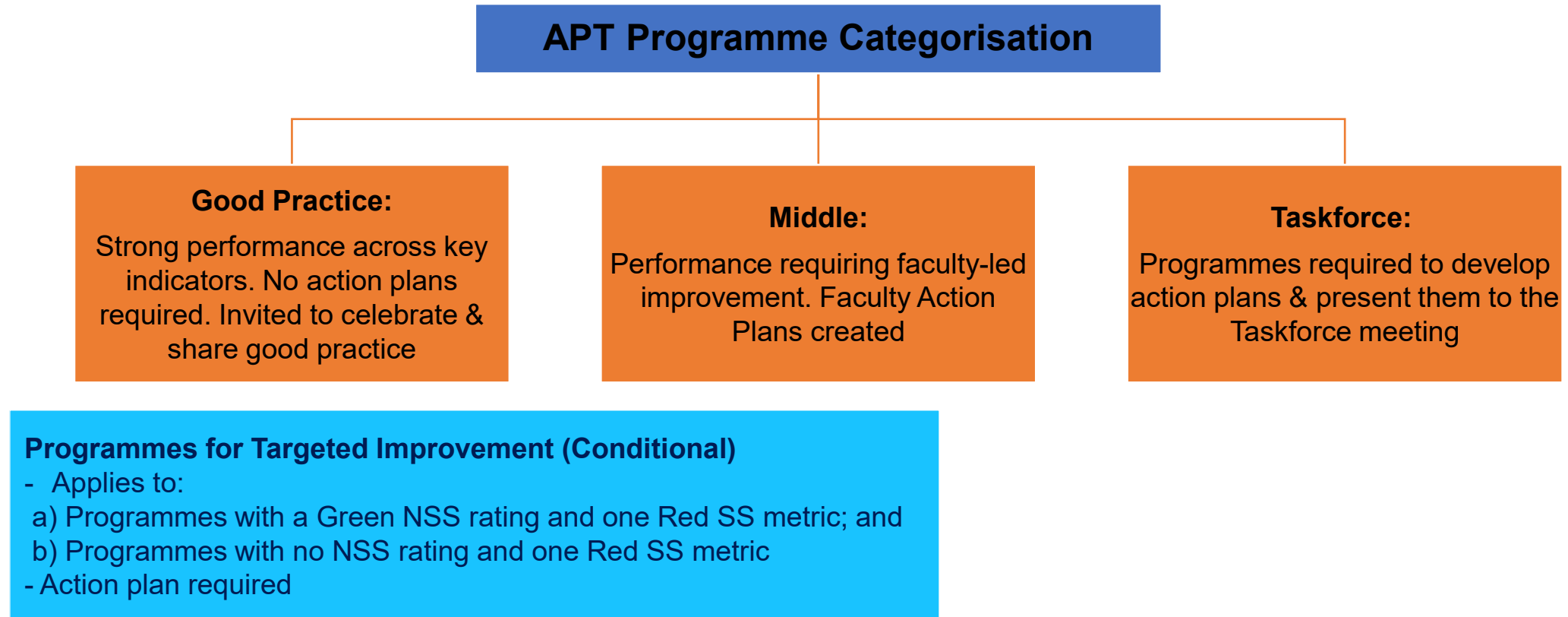
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Introduction

- Builds on the success of the NSS Taskforce, which improved the University's NSS ranking to **45th in the Times Higher Education (2023)**
- **Academic Programme Taskforce (APT) launched in 2024** to drive sustained programme-level improvement
- **Benefits:**
 - Provides a holistic view of programme performance to inform strategic discussions
 - Enables coordinated, metric-driven interventions
 - Encourages collaboration between programme teams and professional services
 - Enhances academic quality and the overall student experience

How APT Categorises Programmes



Based on key indicators: NSS Scores | Continuation | BAME Awarding Difference | Graduate Outcomes

How APT Categorises Programmes

- Programmes will be rated **green**, **amber**, or **red** for each metric.
- Thresholds will be reviewed **annually**. Proposed 2026 RAG ratings remain subject to NSS results.

Metric	Green rating	Amber rating	Red rating
NSS (average of 'Teaching on My Course' and 'Assessment and Feedback')	≥88%	78.6-87.9%	≤78.5%
Continuation	≥90%	80.0-89.9%	<80%
Graduate Outcomes	≥80%	60.0-79.9%	<60%
BAME Awarding Difference	≤5%	5.1-14.9%	≥15%

Note: UGIC and extended programmes are reviewed with their corresponding main programmes. Discontinued programmes are excluded.

How APT Categorises Programmes

- **Minimum student number thresholds** will be applied to ensure fair and reliable comparisons across metrics. The threshold details are provided in the table below.

Metric	Minimum student numbers
NSS	10 responses to the survey
Continuation	25 students in the first year
BAME Awarding Difference	20 BAME and 20 White students in the final year
Graduate Outcomes	10 responses to the survey

How APT Categorises Programmes

- Programmes *may* be **flagged for taskforce review** if thresholds are met, based on the following criteria:
 - **Continuation:** ≥ 5 students withdraw in Year 1
 - **BAME Awarding Difference:** ≥ 3 more White students gain good honours vs. BAME students (with ≥ 40 finalists)
 - **Graduate Outcomes:** ≥ 4 students not in graduate-level employment or further study (with ≥ 10 survey responses)

How APT Categorises Programmes

- Programmes are categorised based on their performance across NSS and Student Success metrics, using the selection criteria outlined below:

Programme Category	NSS Rating	And/or	Student Success Metrics
Good Practice	Green	And/ or	Two or more green indicators
Middle	Amber	And/ or	Two or more amber indicators/ one red and one amber indicator
Taskforce	Red	And/ or	Two or more red indicators
Programme for Targeted Improvement	Green	And/ or	One red indicator, with the other two Green or unclassified

Central Taskforce Programmes

➤ Selection Criteria:

- **Rated red in NSS**, or
- **Rated red in two or more indicators**: Continuation, Graduate Outcomes, BAME Awarding Difference

➤ Clustering: Programmes will be grouped into clusters where possible

➤ Review Groups:

- **NSS red-rated**: Reviewed by Vice Chancellor and CEO (VC) or Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Provost Greenwich (DVC & Provost, Greenwich)
- **Others**: Reviewed by DVC or Group Pro Vice Chancellor (Education)

Central Taskforce Programmes

➤ Membership:

Role	Attendance
VC, DVC & Provost Greenwich or Group PVC Education	Chair
PVC of the Faculty	Core
Associate Dean (Student Success) of the Faculty	Core
Head of School	Core
Relevant Programme Team Leaders	Core
Student Success Project Officer	Core (notes)
Deputy Dean of the Faculty	Optional

➤ Issue-Specific Membership:

- **Graduate Outcomes:** Employability & Apprenticeship Team

Central Taskforce Programmes

➤ Programme Team/ Faculty Leadership Responsibilities:

Before & During the Taskforce Meeting



Prepare the programme action plan in collaboration with **School and Faculty input**



Obtain the relevant **PVC & Executive Dean sign-off** before submission



Submit the approved action plan on **CIT** to the **Student Success Project Officer (SSPO)** at least **three working days** before the Taskforce meeting



Attend the Taskforce meeting to discuss core issues and assess the anticipated effectiveness of the action plan



Revise the action plan if requested following the meeting



Resubmit the updated action plan to the **SSPO** for **Chair's final approval**

Central Taskforce Programmes

➤ Programme Team/ Faculty Leadership Responsibilities:

Mid-Term Review Meeting



Submit a mid-term progress action plan with RAG ratings to the SSPO at least **three working days** in advance



Present progress to the **Chair** at the mid-term review meeting

Good Practice Programmes

➤ Selection Criteria:

- **Rated green in NSS**, and/or
- **Rated green in two or more indicators:** Continuation, Graduate Outcomes, BAME Awarding Difference

Good Practice Programmes



➤ Recognition Activities:

- **Best Practice Exchange Meetings** led by VC and DVC & Provost, Greenwich *(October - November)*
- **Invitation to a celebration event** *(before Term 3)*
- **Opportunity to present** at CPD workshops/ Bespoke sessions/ Short video featured on LTRC webpage *(during the academic year)*

Middle Programmes

➤ Selection Criteria:

- **Rated amber in NSS, or**
- **Not selected for the central taskforce, and**
- **Rated amber or red in two or more indicators:** Continuation, Graduate Outcomes, BAME Awarding Difference, for example:
 - i) Two or more amber indicators, or
 - ii) One red and one amber indicator

Middle Programmes

➤ Faculty Leadership/ Programme Team Responsibilities:

- Faculties to hold programme-level meetings involving PVC & Executive Dean, DDs, ADSS, HoS, AHSS, and Programme Leads
- Develop programme and school-level action plans for middle-performing programmes, aligned with Faculty and School Plans on a Page
- PVC & Executive Dean, DDs, and ADSS to present action plans to VC and DVC & Provost, Greenwich at the faculty plan meeting (scheduled by SSPO)
- All meetings to be held in person to support collaboration



Programmes for Targeted Improvement

➤ Selection Criteria:

- **Rated red in one single metric**, not addressed by central taskforce or faculty-led meetings for middle programmes

➤ Programme Team/ Faculty Leadership Responsibilities:

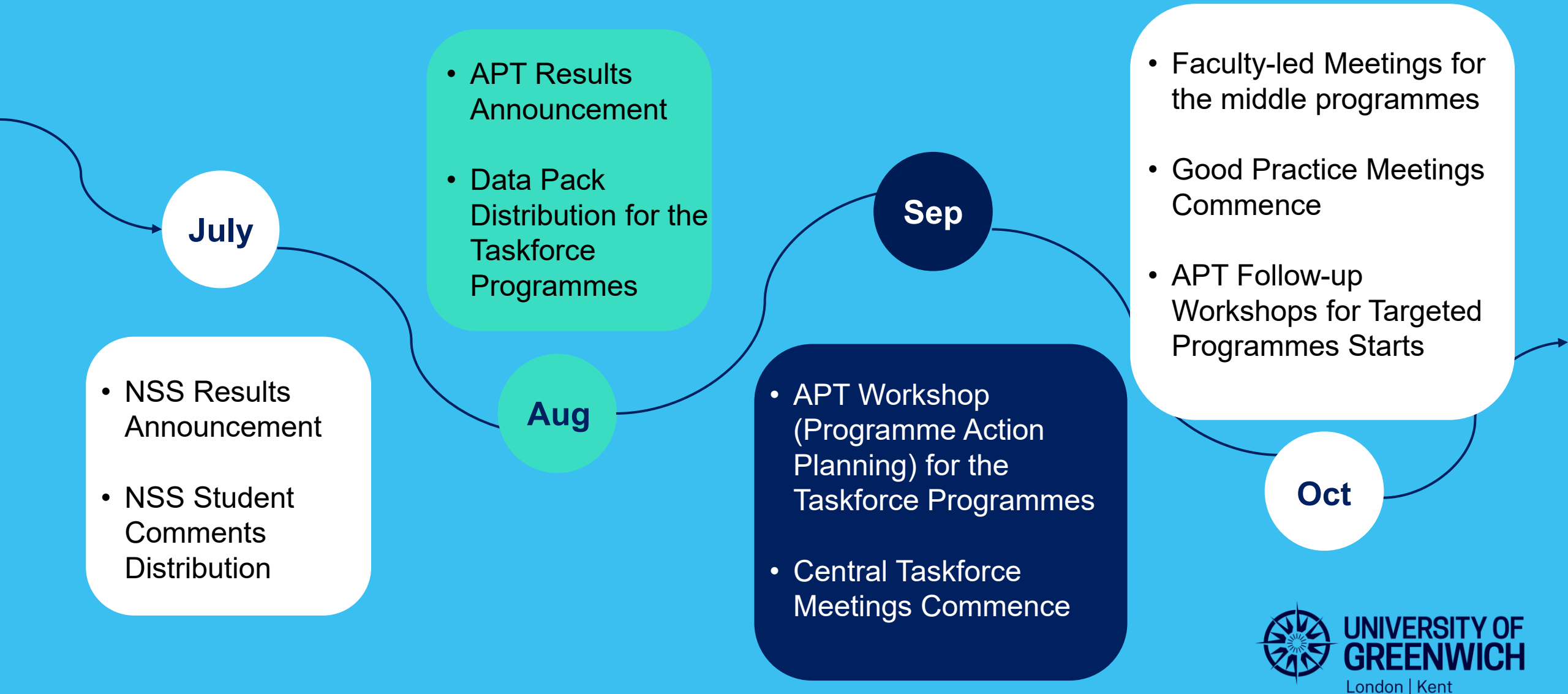
- **Implementation, monitoring and delivery of interventions will be led at Faculty level**, with responsibility delegated as appropriate (e.g. to **ADSSs**)
- **Programme-level action plan progress will be reviewed within Faculties**, where additional support or intervention may be identified and implemented as required.

Action Plan Requirements by Programme Status

Programme status	Action plan?	What to do
- Discontinued - Phasing out – final cohort 2025/26 - Suspended	No	No action plan required.
Phasing out – final cohort after 2025/26	Yes, for NSS, Graduate Outcomes or BAME awarding difference	Action plan required for these specific metrics, but not for continuation.

To note: Replacement programmes are assessed as individual programmes and are subject to the same benchmark and action-plan requirements as other active programmes.

Timeline Overview of the Process (Jul – Oct)



Timeline Overview of the Process (Nov – Feb)



Process Timeline: Detailed View

Timeframe	Task	Action Owners
Early July	NSS Results Announcement	Strategic Planning, Internal Communications
End of July/ Early August	NSS Student Comments Circulation	Strategic Planning SSPO (VCO) – Distribution
End of August	APT Results Announcement	Strategic Planning SSPO (VCO) – Distribution
End of August to Early September	Data Pack Distribution	Strategic Planning – Data pack ready SSPO (VCO) – Distribution
Early September	APT Workshop (Programme Action Planning) for Taskforce Programmes	ALE SSPO (VCO)

Process Timeline: Detailed View

Timeframe	Task	Action Owners
End of September to Mid-October	Central Taskforce Meetings • PVC & Executive Dean to discuss the plan, ensuring its effectiveness and confirming the programme leader is receiving the necessary support. The plan should be signed off and communicated to the SSPO 3 days before the meeting. • Complete the action plan on the CIT. • Professional services directorates will be invited based on the specific issues being addressed.	• Faculty and School Leadership • Programme Team • Academic and Digital Skills Team/ Employability & Apprenticeship Team

Process Timeline: Detailed View

Timeframe	Task	Action Owners
End of September	Programmes for Targeted Improvement • Programme to submit a PVC & Executive Dean-approved action plan in advance of the meeting, addressing identified areas of underperformance. Attendance is not required.	• Programme Team, Faculty and School Leadership
End of October to Early November	Good Practice Meetings • It will be held at the schools' home campuses.	SSPO (VCO) - Schedule Meetings
Mid-October to End of March	APT Follow-up Workshops for the targeted programmes • Selected programme teams are required to attend.	ALE – Organise workshops Programme Team

Process Timeline: Detailed View

Timeframe	Task	Action Owners
October to Early-November	Faculty-led Meetings for the middle programmes Ensure programme-level plans are detailed and aligned with the overarching Faculty and School Plans on a Page.	Faculty and School Leadership, Programme Team
- November to January - Mid-January - February to March	Directorates Follow-Up Actions - Follow up on issues raised by the programme team in the Central Taskforce Meeting. - Provide progress updates to DVC & Provost, Greenwich and Group PVC (Education). - Conduct further follow-up after mid-term review meetings (if necessary).	Directorates

Process Timeline: Detailed View

Timeframe	Task	Action Owners
November	Faculty Plan Meetings with VC & DVC & Provost, Greenwich Share the faculty's overall APT action plan 3 days prior to the meeting.	Faculty Leadership
November	Student Success Awards Ceremony	Faculty and School Leadership, Programme Team, Directorates
Mid-January to February	Mid-term Review Meeting for Taskforce Programmes Submit progress of action plans in RAG format 3 days prior to the meeting.	Faculty and School Leadership, Programme Team
Mid-January to July	Good Practice Sharing Begins	SSPO (VCO)

Enquiries and Support

- **Data-Related Enquiries**

Strategic Planning Team

Email: pasqueries@greenwich.ac.uk

- **Learning and Teaching Support Enquiries**

Academic and Learning Enhancement Team

Email: ils-ale@greenwich.ac.uk

- **APT Process Enquiries**

Student Success Project Officer

Email: k.l.tse@greenwich.ac.uk

Thank you