

External Audit Outcomes from a National Structured Education Programme

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Introduction

The DAFNE programme relies on a robust external audit process to assess if Centres are meeting essential criteria. We present the outcomes for the 17 Collaborative Centres audited during 2009.

Methods

Data are collected via a combination of **self-completed questionnaires, external Auditor* visit, course observation and interviews with lead staff**. Centres are audited against nationally recognised criteria and user input:

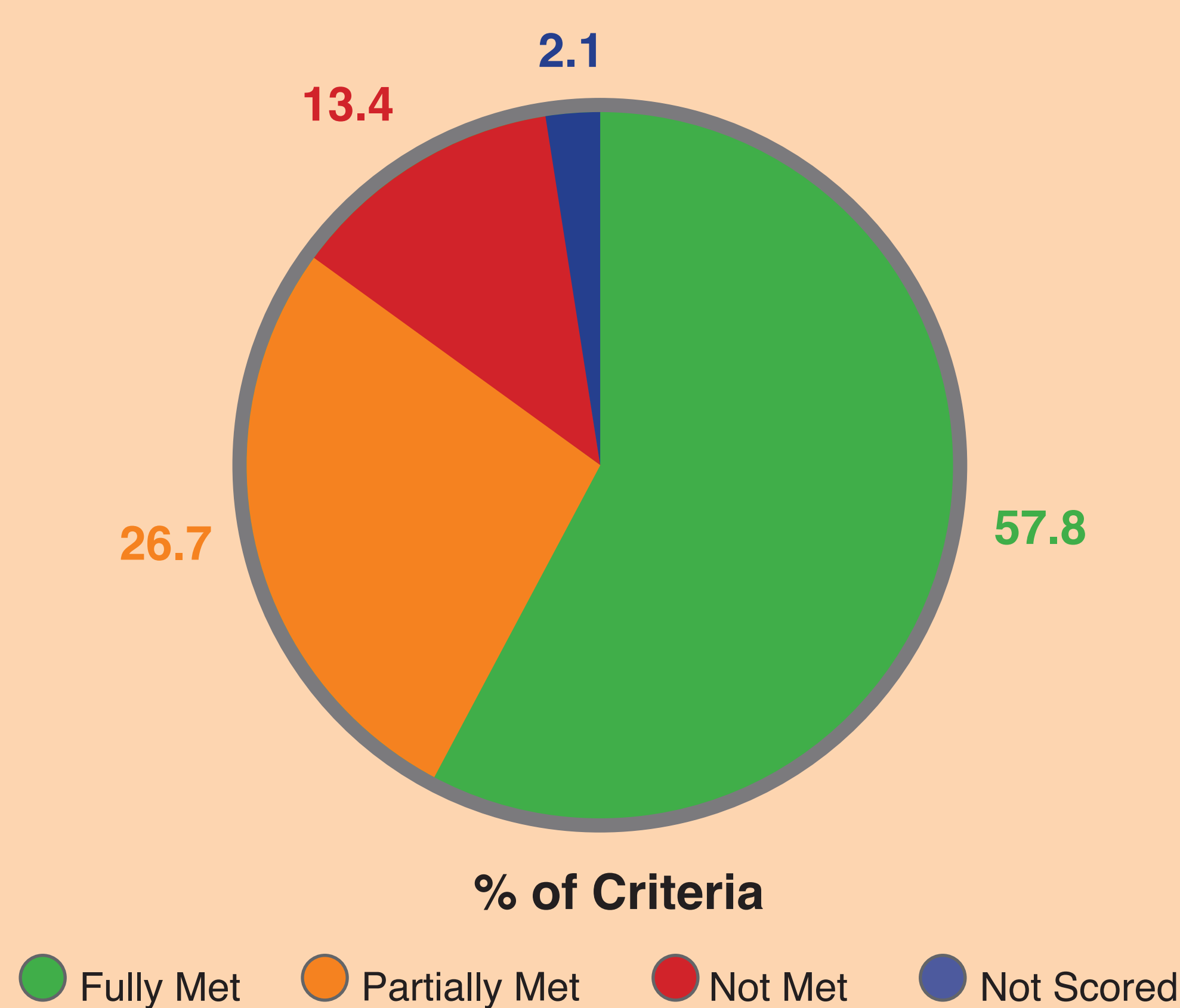
- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Philosophy (1 sub-criterion) | 2. Curriculum (2 sub-criteria) | 3. Trained Educators (5 sub-criteria) |
| 4. Quality Assurance (9 sub-criteria) | 5. Audit (4 sub-criteria) | 6. User Input (1 sub-criterion) |

These 22 criteria are scored using a traffic-light system:

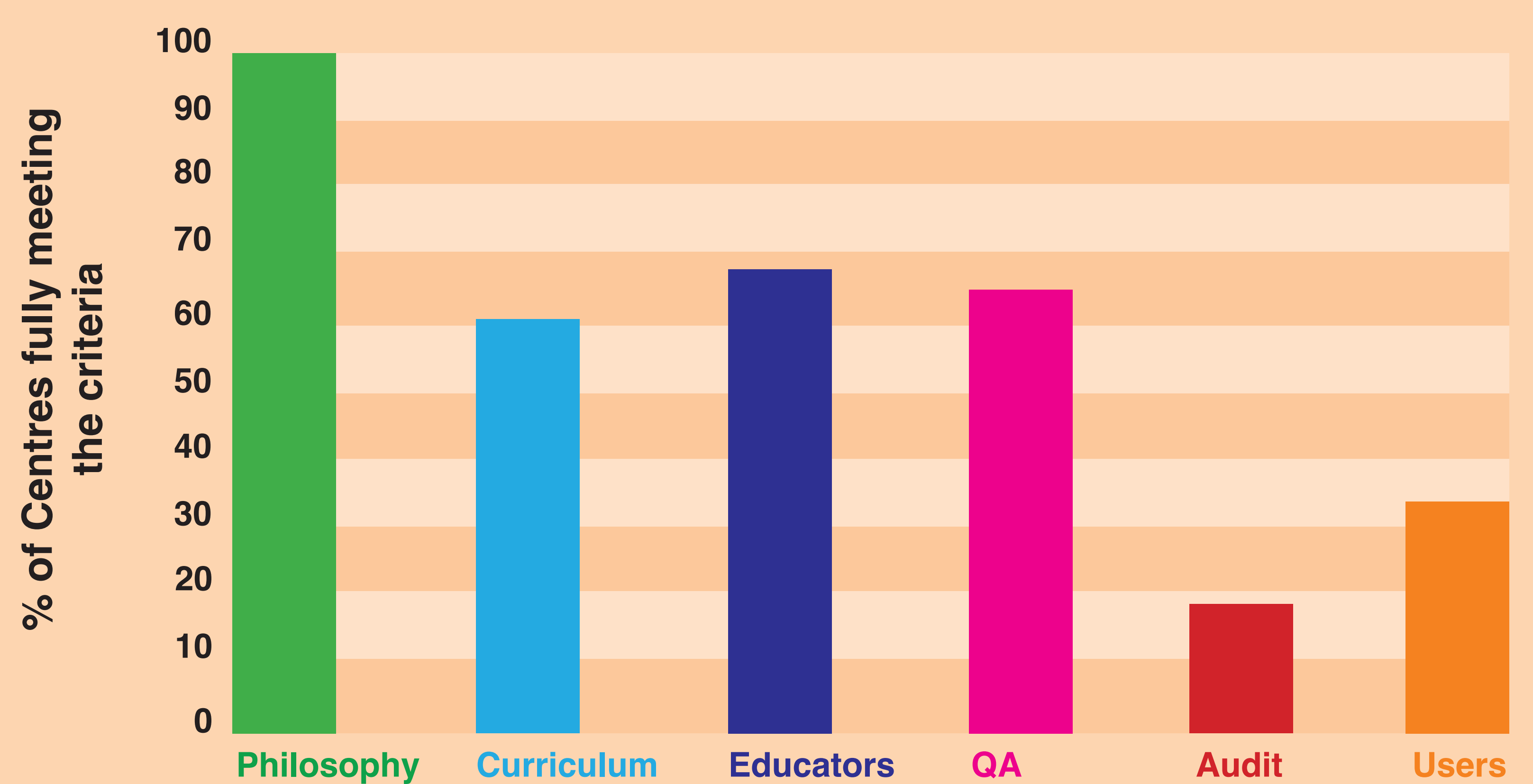
- = Fully Met ● = Partially Met ● = Not Met

*Auditors are experienced DAFNE Educators/Peer Reviewers who have undergone additional training for the Auditor role.

Overall Results:



6 Main Criteria



Reasons for “Not Scored” were involvement in ongoing research (Irish Study) and data reporting (database development) issues.

12 Centres (70.6%) fully met at least 50% of the 22 criteria.

Summary

This audit process provides a clear indication of the achievement of key criteria and a comparison between services. Fully achieving the “Audit” criterion (collection of post-course data) proved most difficult; this information has been used to simplify the “core” outcome data requirements for DAFNE Centres.

The audit reports generated and presented to Centres help them to work towards meeting the criteria.