

Academy Council Meeting

Summary of key issues

26 April 2017

Welcome and Introductions

The Council paid a warm tribute to Carrie MacEwen, Clare Marx and Simon Wessely who were demitting office and would no longer be Council members.

Election of Council Chair

The Council congratulated Carrie MacEwen on her election as Academy Chair.

New Academy Member

The Council agreed to the membership Application from the Faculty of Sports and Exercise Medicine (FSEM) which will now be processed for them to become Academy members.

Education issues

The Council chose to make education and training issues the core focus for this meeting. Issues covered included:

HEE – Professor Wendy Reid

HEE Director of Education and Quality was welcomed to the Council and spoke about HEE's work on Enhancing Trainees Lives, Quality of Training initiatives, the Shape of Training report and Workforce Planning.

SAS Doctors

Dr Kirstin May, Chair of the Academy SAS Doctors Group presented a report on the work of the SAS Group and key issues for SAS doctors. This included both College support for and representation of SAS doctors and consistent standards for SAS access to training support in the NHS.

Costs of Training

The Council received a report from Sam Mills, Vice Chair of the Academy Trainee Group, on work the Group had undertaken to produce a document setting out the costs associated with training programmes in different specialties. The Council recognised the value of the work but emphasised that it was essential that all Colleges signed off the accuracy of figures before they were published. The Council agreed a process for this to be overseen by Education Lead, Professor Jane Dacre.

GMC issues

Jane Dacre reported on discussions with GMC on working relations and updated on issues including standards for curriculum approval and Generic Professional Capabilities.

General election

The Council agreed an Academy statement for release which reiterated previous views of the need for increased resources for the NHS along with recognition of the requirement for changes in the way services are delivered. <http://bit.ly/2p0hpQQ>

Conflicts of interest

The Council welcomed a report of work undertaken on behalf of the Academy by Professor Alan Boyd, President of the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Medicine, on doctors and conflicts of interests. Whilst no substantial changes were proposed this will be developed into a statement for the Academy.

MTI

The Council noted concerns over recent changes to the MTI scheme but recognised that prioritisation arrangements reflected the intent of the scheme.

Medical Licensing Assessment (MLA)

The Council agreed an Academy response to the GMC consultation on the introduction of a MLA. The response recognised that having a single, objective assessment that would enable everyone to be confident that doctors new to practice have met the same threshold of competence is a positive step.

Safeguarding Medicine in a Time of conflict

The Council agreed a statement supporting the work of Medecin San Frontiers (MSF) and other agencies in conflict zones and of the need to safeguard health professionals. The Council agreed that the Academy should speak out publicly on these issues when they occurred. Colleges were keen to develop links with MSF.

Inclusion Health

The Council agreed a joint Academy and Faculty for Homeless and Inclusion Health Position Statement on inclusion health <http://bit.ly/2r92tLp>

The position of Royal Colleges on the role of evidence

The Council agreed a statement at the request of RCS (England) to support an initiative being undertaken by the Alliance for Useful Evidence. The Alliance is a UK-wide network that promotes the use of high quality evidence to inform decisions on strategy, policy and practice, through advocacy, publishing research, sharing ideas and advice, and holding events and training <http://bit.ly/2r80h4S>

New Care Models - Workforce issues

The Council noted the work being undertaken with the New Care Models Workforce Team including proposed seminars for later in the year. It was also noted that the remit of the group would be expanded to include workforce supply issues and would engage with HEE on this.