

Summary of key issues

Welcome

Professor Dame Sue Bailey, the new Chair of the Academy Council, thanked members for electing her as Chair of the Academy and said how much she was looking forward to undertaking the role and working with members.

The Council welcomed Dr Chris Wilkinson, President of the Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare to his first meeting as an Academy member. The Council also welcomed Dr Gethin Pugh the newly appointed Chair of the Trainee Group to his first meeting and thanked Dr Muj Hussain for all his work for the Group and the Academy.

Royal College of Emergency Medicine

Dr Cliff Mann, President the College of Emergency medicine reported that the College had been granted the title “Royal” and would now be the Royal College of Emergency Medicine. The Council offered its warm congratulations.

New Academy member – Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Health (FSRH)

Dr Chris Wilkinson, President of the FSRH, gave a brief presentation about the work of the Faculty and the Specialty.

Choosing Wisely

The Council noted proposals for taking forward an Academy “Choosing Wisely” programme of work. It was noted that NHS England was supportive of the initiative. A Steering Group is now being established to take forward the work which will be a key Academy priority over the coming year.

The Accountable Clinician in non-inpatient settings

Dr David Richmond (President RCOG) and Professor Mike Pringle (President RCGP) co-chairs of the Steering Group reported on the positive progress of the Academy project on developing guidance for the Secretary of State on the role of an “Accountable Clinician” in non-in-patient settings

Integrated care

The Council welcomed further work that is underway between the RCP (London) and the RCGP following the Academy supported statement on integrated care published in December 2014. The involvement of other Colleges and Faculties will be sought as the work progress and the Academy would be happy to facilitate this.

Five year Forward View – New Models of care

The Council welcomed a presentation from Samantha Jones and Sir Sam Everington, NHS England Leads for the new Models of Care. Members expressed their support for full clinical involvement in the work and agreed to continue engagement.

Shape of Training

It was noted that all UK ministers have agreed to proceed with the Shape of Training proposals and that a statement from the Shape Steering Group is expected shortly. The Council expressed its concerns that the process of engagement since the publication of the report had been flawed and this was having the effect of alienating support for positive aspects of the proposals. The Council reaffirmed the need for full College and trainee involvement in the process and specifically reiterated its support for a four year GP training.

Point of Registration

The Council noted that the Government wishes to proceed with moving the point of medical registration and there is to be an initial consultation exercise to run from mid-February to end of March. This was recognised to be a complex issue but College priorities were on patient safety and the experience for trainees.

Public Sector Equality Duty

Arising out of the Judicial Review challenge to the MRCGP exam the Council endorsed Academy guidance as to how Colleges and Faculties might meet the Public Sector Equality Duty requirements. The Council urged all Colleges and Faculties to put in place arrangements to address PSED requirements in line with the guidance as appropriate.

College engagement with Monitor

The Council agreed a proposal for the Academy to co-ordinate clinical in-pat on cross-specialty issues to Monitor.

Health and Social Care (Safety and Quality) Bill

The Council noted that the proposals to legislate for zero harm would be ineffective and have perverse consequences and agreed to endorse the concerns set out by Health.Foundation.

Major Incidents

The Academy agreed to collate information on the consequences – intended and unintended - of declaring “Major Incidents” as has happened in many organisations over the winter and potential ways to avoid them.

Faculty of Physicians Associates

The Council noted a report from the RCP(L) on the development of their Faculty of Physicians Associates. It was recognised that the question of the regulation of physician associates is an issue across Colleges and it was agreed that the Academy would collate information on the position to take forward issue as appropriate.

College Election Statements

The Council agreed that the Academy would produce a “compendium” of statements/manifestos produced by Colleges and Faculties in preparation for the election so the full range of College policies can be brought together.

Care.data

The Council noted that the lack of resolution and a clear position is causing real problems for researchers and academics in obtaining data to the detriment of many research programmes and agreed to raise the concerns over research delays with DH and HSCIC.

Decisions Relating to Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

The Council agreed to support proposals to promote guidance on CPR and for a one off meeting to consider whether specialty specific detail was required whilst recognising that it was important that issues were considered in broad context of end of life care not just DNACPR.

National Clinical Excellence Awards

It was noted that the ACCEA processes for clinical excellence awards are to be reviewed and it was agreed that the Academy would collate the issues to feed in to review.

Merger of Academy DoCPD and Revalidation Committees

The Council agreed a proposal for the merger of the Academy DoCPD and Revalidation Committees.