

Summary of key issues

Hilary Cass

The Council warmly thanked Hilary Cass, President of the RCPCH, who was attending her last meeting as a Council member, for all her work for the Academy as well as for her own College.

Five Year Forward View – New Models of Care Vanguard Sites

The Council agreed a request from NHS England for more structured engagement between Colleges and the Vanguard Sites projects. The detail of how this might operate in practice will now be developed but will include some joint thinking on workforce issues.

The Accountable Clinician in non-inpatient settings

Professor Mike Pringle (President RCGP) reported on the continued 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.

Supporting Professional Activities (SPAs)

The Council considered again the issue of the increasing pressure on SPA time for consultants and especially the effect of 9:1 contracts for newly appointed consultants in Scotland. The Council reiterated the need for doctors to have sufficient time for both personal CPD and learning but also involvement in clinical leadership and service improvement activity as a normal part of professional practice.

Consideration will be given to a statement on SPAs incorporating the issues above for agreement by members which would set out the evidence, what SPA time should be used for and the consequences of not providing the time.

Shape of Training

Following the publication of the statement from the Shape UK Steering Group in February the Academy was asked to co-ordinate a mapping exercise by Colleges to look at the extent to which Colleges have or can develop the generic components of their curricula. Colleges and Faculties have been consulted on the remit for the exercise which will take place over the next six months.

Clinical Sustainability - College engagement with Monitor

The Council agreed to have further discussions with Monitor as to how Colleges could provide formal input and advice about issues of the clinical sustainability of NHS organisations. The Council felt it was important that College input was made across the system to all the national NHS bodies and not simply Monitor.

Morecambe Bay Investigation

The Council accepted the recommendation from the recent Morecambe Bay Hospital Investigation to produce guidance setting out common principles for College Invited Reviews which would include the governance and quality assurance processes for reviews.

Reducing Mortality

The Council received a report of a successful meeting of Academy members with NHS England and subsequent submission on priority areas to improve survival for patients with acute illness and the proposed next steps for the work.

Members were supportive of the work and identified additional issues to feed into the project.

Election Statements

The Council welcomed the publication of the Academy compendium of election “manifestos” produced by Colleges and Faculties which was felt to be a useful and positive publication.

The Council also agreed that following the election the Academy should produce a statement setting out what Colleges want to see in terms of NHS structure and organisation incorporating the principles of the Five Year Forward View.

National Clinical Excellence Awards

The Council received the Academy’s submission to the ACCEA Triennial Review which set out a range of College concerns about the current process and the lack of recognition for work at national level on behalf of the wider NHS undertaken for Colleges or other organisations.

Academy International Forum

The Council endorsed the proposal from the Faculty of Public Health to take on the secretariat role for the International Forum for a twelve month period. The FPH will use the period to refresh the work of the group with identified, practical outputs and report back to the Council with recommendations on long term arrangements for the Forum.

Innovative Medicines and Medical Technology review

The Council noted the Department of Health’s Innovative Medicines and Medical Technology Review and proposals for College input. It has been agreed to hold a seminar with for Colleges with the Review Team led by Sir John Bell, Regius Professor of Medicine at Oxford.

ABPI – Disclosure of Payments

The Council noted a report on proposed arrangements due to come into operation in 2016 for disclosure of payments to health professionals by pharmaceutical companies. It was recognised that Colleges may need to produce guidance for members on the issue in due course.

Meeting with David Prior, Chair CQC

At the close of the meeting members met with David Prior, Chair of CQC which discussed the current CQC inspection regime, clinical engagement and the role of College accreditation schemes. It was agreed that College representatives would meet with the CQC Board.