

# Academy Council Meeting

## Summary of key issues

July / 2020

### Welcome, introductions and farewells

The Council held its second virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams which again worked very effectively.

Several new members who had taken up office as President of their respective Colleges were welcomed to their first Council meeting :- Bernie Chang RC Ophthalmologists, Matthew Garrett FDS, Adrian James RC Psychiatrists, Neil Mortensen RCS England, Ronan O'Connell RCSI and Angela Thomas RCPE

### Professor Carrie MacEwen

This was the final meeting for Carrie MacEwen who demitted office as Academy Chair at the close of Council. Carrie thanked members for their support during her time as chair. Helen Stokes-Lampard, the incoming chair, paid tribute to Carrie for all her work for the Academy, particularly during COVID-19, and this was warmly endorsed by the Council. Council wished Carrie all the very best for the future.

### Academy Officers

Council also noted the election of Jeanette Dickson (President RCR) and Eddie Morris (President RCOG) as Academy Vice-Chairs. Jeanette has taken office following the demitting of Derek Alderson (RCS Eng.) and Eddie will take up office in November when Jo Martin (RC Path ) demits office.

### COVID-19

Whilst COVID-19 remains at the top of everyone's agendas, it was recognised that issues are currently being picked up across a range of other meetings. The input and comments from the Patient Lay Group were particularly welcome.

### People Plan

The imminent publication of the NHSE/I People Plan was noted. It would concentrate on the staff support agenda and not new workforce supply. The Academy would be broadly supportive although make clear the need for detail on future supply. It was felt essential that the behaviours advocated in the Plan should be modelled by organisations and leaders locally and nationally.

### Medical Workforce Race Equality Standards (MWRES)

Council noted the ongoing work of the MWRES which was particularly important in the light of COVID experiences. Colleges were clear that they wished to be transparent regarding ethnicity information of their membership and committees. It was recognised that equality and equal representation in College structures is not solely about ethnicity. It pertains to gender, geographic, organisational type etc as well.



## MTI

The Council was very pleased to receive a report that following the Academy's lobbying, the Home Office has agreed to extend visas for all current MTI doctors by 12 months. Details of the forthcoming review of the scheme were noted.

## SAS Doctors

A paper from the SAS Committee on SAS doctors and leadership which called on Colleges to promote the role of SAS doctors was supported and a useful summary of College activity for SAS doctors, which will appear on the Academy website, was also received.

## Rethinking Medicine

Council supported the Academy proposal to NHSE to lead work on Rethinking Medicine aimed at pulling together the myriad projects on ensuring appropriate medical interventions and shared decision making.

## Evidence Based Interventions (EBI)

The Council endorsed the Academy's role in respect of the second wave of the EBI initiative and noted the series of engagement events over the coming month.

## Medical Associate Professionals (MAPs)

Council received an update on the regulation of MAPs by the GMC. It was agreed that Council should have a strategic discussion on the best use of MAPs at some point.

## Foundation Programme Curriculum

The Council endorsed the revised Foundation Programme curriculum produced by the Foundation Programme Committee for submission to the GMC. Council thanked Tony Choules, FPC Chair, and the Committee for all their hard work in revising the curriculum.

## ATDG COVID-19 exams and wellbeing working group

An initiative from the Trainee Group to set up a group looking at exams and wellbeing was welcomed but it was agreed to have further discussion on a proposed survey.

## Reasonable adjustments

Council agreed to have further discussions with COPMED and the GMC on a cross-system approach to the issue of centralised provision of advice on reasonable adjustment requests from exam candidates with neurodiverse conditions.

## Brexit Update

The Council noted the current position and endorsed the current policy in respect of any "No Deal" Brexit.

## First Do No Harm

The Council considered Baroness Cumberlege's report "First Do No Harm". It was recognised that there are important issues to consider on transparency, declarations of interest and a devices register. However, it was felt this was more appropriate when there is greater clarity on the recommendations.

## Paediatrics 2040

A presentation on the RCPCH Paediatrics 2040 was welcomed and Council looks forward to seeing the final report.

## Reducing Inequalities Alliance

The Council received an update on development of the RCP-led Inequalities Health Alliance and was happy to endorse its objectives.