

Council: 3 July 2013

Brief report of items discussed

OUTCOMES FORUM

Council received a presentation from Dr Hilary Cass on the Future of Child Health. Key recommendations from the Manchester Policy Conference were: Training-across all healthcare professionals in contact with children; Primary Care-Support network for parental anxiety and the role of GPs; Nurses-Attract Community Nurses and develop ANPs; Reconfiguration: Build sustainability of SSPAUs; Configuration-Need to develop phased consultant career; and Public Health-School health programmes needed development.

MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

Council noted a presentation on the 2012 Membership Survey. Key findings were: Satisfaction levels had fallen since the last membership survey was undertaken; Archives, Clinical Guidelines and Asset/E-portfolio emerged as the main valued benefits; There was widespread feeling that the College website is not user friendly and required rapid and meaningful improvement; Members generally valued the courses the College provided but wished to see a more varied programme which addressed both their core professional needs as well as broader "soft skills" and that they would prefer courses delivered regionally.

CAREER SUPPORT FOR DOCTORS

Council received a paper on Career Support for Doctors. Council agreed that proposals would go to the next Council detailing the project plan.

FUTURE OF ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Council noted a paper on the 2013 Annual Conference. Council noted that there were problems with the conference. The College was acting to mitigate the concerns of members.

WORKFORCE CENSUS

Council noted the main finding of the 2011 census. Council noted the request for members to ensure organisational contacts are up-to-date for the 2013 College Medical Workforce Census.

POLICY PRIORITIES

Council noted a presentation on the RCPCH Key Policy Indicators. Council agreed that final Policy Indicators would be presented at the next Council meeting.

HANDBOOK FOR PAEDIATRICIANS

Council considered an update on the content and timeline for producing the Handbook for Paediatricians. Council agreed Council Readers and to delegate the sign-off for the final version to the Executive Committee.

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT

Council received a report providing an update on key College activities and noted a Policy Breakfast at the RCPCH on 11 July about Children and Public Health. Council also noted that the College was aiming to gain the 'Best Company' award in 2013.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Council received a written report on the financial position of the College at 31 May 2013. Council noted that HMRC had lost both the initial hearing and the first appeal on the VAT decision. However, HMRC was expected to appeal the decision to the upper tribunal.

2013-2014 Budget

Council received a paper on the budget for 2013-14. Council agreed the budget and noted that within the next 12 months a RCPCH Office would be set up in Northern Ireland and that a research bid writer was being recruited to sit in the Policy and Research department

TELEPHONE MAST

Council noted that the College had been approached by UK Broadband (UKB) to host equipment on the roof of the RCPCH premises, with an offer of a financial commitment and guaranteed income, by entering into a formal lease agreement. Council agreed the acceptance of the lease agreement subject to planning permission

WHISTLEBLOWING

Council discussed and noted the implications of whistleblowing for the NHS and the RCPCH. Council agreed that Hilary Cass would explore the issue of

whistleblowing with the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges.

ACCEA

Council noted that the Department of Health had yet to confirm whether there will be a 2013 ACCEA process and, if there is one, the opening date.

CT SCANNING

Council noted that there was no regulation regarding the dosage of CT scanning and that the amount of CT scans or dosage was not recorded. Council agreed to approach the Clinical Standards Committee to ask them to agree proposals for recording CT scan dosage.

Chairman: Dr Hilary Cass
Next meeting: 13 November 2013