

Minutes of the meeting of the General Practice, Public Health Medicine, Occupational Medicine, and Broad-Based Training Specialty Board held at 9:30 on Tuesday 12th September 2023 via TEAMS

Present: Nitin Gambhir (NG) [Chair], Claire Beharrie (CB), David Herron (DH), Cathy Johnman (CJ), Lisa Johnsen (LJ), Graham Leese (GL), Allan MacDonald (AMacD), Jen MacKenzie (JMack), Ashleigh McGovern (AMcG), Cieran McKiernan (CMcK), Lindsay Pope (LP) and Chris Williams (CW)

Apologies: Greycy Bell (GB), Jim Foulis (JF), Akram Hussain (AH), Ken Lee (KL), Catriona Morton (CM) and Pauline Wilson (PW)

In attendance: June Fraser (JFr) and Zoe Park (ZP) (Minutes)

Item	Item No	Comment	Action
1.	Welcome & Apologies	<p>The chair welcomed the members, noted apologies, and all new members introduced themselves.</p> <p>The following changes to the committee were noted by NG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LP was welcomed as the new STB Chair and will be taking over from the next meeting as NG moves into his new role as LDD. • CW will be replacing CM on the committee and NG gave thanks to CM for her service over the years. • NG also gave thanks to JFr as this will be her last meeting as administrative support and ZP will be working with the STB moving forward. • NG gave thanks and gratitude to GL who will be retiring at the end of the year, and this potentially will be their last meeting together. 	
2.	Minutes of meeting held on 16/05/2023	The minutes from 16 th May 2023 were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.	
3.	Review of Action Points	All action points were completed from the meeting held on 16 th May 2023.	

		JFr highlighted that she had been in contact with Jim Foulis to make sure he would still be attending the STB as a Lay Representative, but he is not in attendance today.	ZP will follow up again before next STB.
4.	Matters Arising	There were no additional matters arising.	
5.	Main Items of Business		
5.1	Deanery Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NG noted that there have been some changes at the Deanery in relation to restructuring. Going forward there will be three regions in Scotland (North, South-East and West) and there will be an LDD aligned to each region as follows: Alan Denison (North), Adam Hill (South-East) and Nitin Gambhir (West). There have also been three deputy LDDs appointed as follows: Marion Slater (North), Alastair Murray (South-East) and Greg Jones (West). The specialty groupings will also be redistributed amongst the LDDs/DLDDs. • There is also a new Dean for Pharmacy, Andrew Sturrock will be taking over from Professor Anne Watson. • Within GP, Assistant Director Dr Ken Lee will be retiring at the end of November. Advert for two assistant directors has now gone live. NG has been replaced by assistant director Karine Newlands, who has taken the role on from beginning of September. • CJ is still currently holding two posts as TPD for PH/OM and APGD. A replacement has been appointed for TPD, but they won't start until December. 	
5.2	Recruitment Update	<p>JMack gave members the following update:</p> <p>Paper 2 was circulated to the committee before the STB detailing the recruitment update/timeline.</p> <p>Round 3 is currently ongoing and GP is the only specialty with posts in that round of recruitment. Offer dates may be pushed back due to the ongoing strikes in England.</p>	

		NG noted that GP has a particularly early lockdown date and planning for August 2024 will begin shortly.	
5.3	TERS Update	<p>Meeting with Scottish Government regarding the enhanced bursary scheme is due to take place this week to discuss for 2024/25 allocations. The main purpose of the scheme is to attract more GPs in hard to recruit to locations, but discussion has arisen around whether in certain areas the scheme has served its purpose, for example in areas such as Lanarkshire. However, there are areas, such as the Borders, which currently don't attract the bursary but need additional support. DH highlighted that the scheme doesn't necessarily mean that trainees will remain in these locations when they complete training as most trainees continue to live centrally and travel. These issues will be discussed at upcoming meetings and there may be some restructuring of the scheme in the future.</p> <p>CJ suggested that this may be an interesting piece of work that could be carried out by one of the trainees in the leadership programme as a needs assessment. Public Health has a mechanism where a piece of work that could be undertaken with supervision with the support of an organisation. This can benefit the location and help meet competencies.</p>	NG and LP will discuss before next STB.
5.4	SCA & Exam Support Update	<p>LP gave the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First diet of the new SCA exam is due to go live in November. The reservation window was released, and it showed that there was a very high demand for the November diet. This is due to a wide variety of reasons, such as gaps since the last sitting, re-sits and individuals who are out of sync in their training. Discussions are ongoing regarding how many days and how examiners will be required to meet the demand. LJ noted that the window for converting the reservation into a booking will take place between 18th – 22nd September. • The new platform has been piloted using examiners and candidates. Feedback from the latest pilot has been positive. • Examiner mandatory training event is due to take place in September in Stratford. 	

		<p>NG highlighted that the introduction of a new exam undoubtedly will cause a lot of change for both trainers and trainees.</p> <p>The Deanery have been pro-active in coming up with strategies to provide exam support by collaborating with the Scottish Examiner cohort. The first two days of pilots for the SCA exam courses have taken place for candidates who had failed the RCA and who were hoping to sit the SCA. Online courses will be provided going forward for trainees and there will be monthly webinars for trainers.</p>	
6.	Quality		
6.1	QM Update	<p>CMcK gave the following quality update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QRP will take place in a few weeks to go over trainee feedback. • BBT will receive their first quality visit on Tuesday 19th September with trainees from both the North and the West cohorts. 	
7.	Training Programme Management Update	<p>AMcG gave members the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment lockdown date for GP is confirmed as mid-October for August 2024. • BBT and Public Health numbers will be required later in the year for August 2024. • IDT list has been received and there has been an increase since the introduction of criterion 5 in August 2022. All the relevant TPDs will have been contacted regarding incoming requests for February 2024 and information must be provided to the IDT team by Wednesday 20th September. • Another change regarding IDT is the removal of the Deanery supporting document, which usually includes any fitness to practice concerns or information regarding developmental ARCP outcomes. • February 2024 rotations will have to be on TURAS by November for the Health Boards. • Summer ARCPs have been completed and any winter ARCPs will be organised where necessary. 	

		<p>Discussion arose around acronyms and NG noted that there used to be an acronym checklist list that was added to the end of the agenda. CW suggested a few that could be added, and NG noted that we should link in with Niall McIntosh and see if this is possible.</p> <p>NG confirmed that criterion 5 for IDT means that there is no specific reason required for an IDT request.</p>	ZP will discuss with Niall before the next STB and circulate.
8.	Professional Development Update	Professional development is a separate workstream alongside TPM and Quality. It has been agreed that Quality and TPM will be merging (TMQ) going forward and professional development as a workstream will be redistributed.	
9.	MDRG Update	MDRG stands for Medicine Deanery Reference Group which replaces MDST. NG noted that going forward this doesn't need to be a standard agenda item.	ZP will update agenda
10.	Advancing Equity in Medicine	<p>There was a GMC visit on Wednesday 6th September and they spoke positively about the action plans relating to Advancing Equity in Medicine where there is currently a lot of ongoing work in this space. Some of the key highlights from the GMC were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for IMG trainees, in particular the GP STEP Programme and the aspirations to roll this out across the country in different specialties and including non-training grades and locally employed doctors. • GMC keen to plan another visit next August to witness one of the STEP events. <p>NG also noted that he is still waiting to hear back regarding an automatic extension to the skilled worker visa for IMG trainees, regardless of specialty. It has been approved in England but not Scotland, NG has raised the issue with the Scottish Government and asked CW/LJ for college support regarding this. LJ added that the college policy team may be able to share some information to the Scottish Government with regards to visa extensions.</p>	LJ will contact the policy team regarding this.
11.	Service Report	No representative from Service was available.	
12.	DME Report	No report available from DMEs.	

13.	Royal College Update	<p>LJ gave the members the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1802 recommendations were made to the GMC in June/July, of which 122 were from Scotland. Within that there two ATC applications, one combined programme and two BBTs. • 105 trainees due to CCT between now and February 2024. • College peak wash-up session due to take place on Thursday 14th September. • All ARCP forms must be signed off before trainees can achieve CCT. • Six attempts at the SCA only applies to trainees who started training from August 2023. If a trainee comes back into programme they will adhere to the old rules. • The new framework for CESR and CEGPRA Applications will be introduced from the 30th November 2023. • Ongoing work surrounding ARCP outcome 5's and how these can be reduced. • Research project started surrounding progression through training and at what points in training support is needed. • New Chief Executive, Chris Askew Starts on the 3rd October 2023. 	
14.	Specialty Reports	<p>Public Health</p> <p>CJ gave the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five new registrars started in August 2023 and induction seems to be going well. • Two new expansion posts have been applied for. • CJ will meet with the Directors of Public Health Group on the 6th October, regarding ES capacity in PH vs the need for more PH consultants. Currently, 52 trainers on TURAS for 40 registrars. • No current update regarding SOAR and the move to TURAS to contain all the training elements. • Taster session arranged for early November for prospective registrars. • Registrar training sessions are going well. Registrars put forward topics and each Health Board takes a turn hosting 10 months out of the year. 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New curriculum evaluation been circulated to registrars/trainers to get feedback and will be discussed at STC. • Membership examination has now returned to face-to-face, one sitting per year in Liverpool. <p>BBT</p> <p>AMacD gave the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As discussed above, Quality Visit due to take place on Tuesday 19th September. • TPD report has been complete. • Currently two x gaps at D&G and Tayside don't have any new trainees this year due to issues with LTFT and MAT leave. 	
15.	Academic Update	<p>LP noted that Frank Sullivan has agreed to join the committee as an academic representative.</p> <p>LP also added that over recent years there has been a lot of work carried out reviewing academic career paths across all specialties. Professor Adam Hill has been leading work reviewing SCREDS and academic career paths. Most opportunities are focused on recently qualified GPs but also a need to consider possibility for opportunities later in career pathway.</p>	
16.	Trainee Update	Trainee Rep was not in attendance.	
17.	Lay Member Update	No Lay Rep in attendance.	
18.	BMA Update	<p>DH updated the committee with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BMA focus is on retention of trainees. • Safe workload guidance has been published, in the hope that this will be used to make the working environment safe for new trainees and make them want to stay. • Scottish Government agreed a 6% uplift for consultants/GPs but it's still not clear what this means for GMS General Practice. 	

		NG added that this is on the radar of the committee of GP directors and that guidance is currently being revised due to a lot of change within general practice in recent years.	
19.	AOB	There was no AOB discussed.	
20.	Date for next meetings	Dates for 2023 meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday, 14th of November 2023 (10:00 – 12:00) 	
20.	Dates for Proposed 2024 meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 05th of March 2024 1000-1200 • 14th of May 2024 1000-1200 • 10th of September 2024 1000-1200 • 12th of November 2024 1000-1200 	