



AMRCW Council Meeting – Thursday 22 September 2022

10:00 – 12:30

MPEC POW Bridgend & Microsoft Teams meeting

Key Points and Actions

Welcome and apologies:

Present MPEC: Abrie Theron Chair (AT)
Alex Gorton (FFLM) (AG)
Llion Davies (FPH) (LD)
Suresh Pillai (RCEM) (SP)
Steven Backhouse (RCS Edin) (SB)

Present TEAMS: Simon Ford (RCOA) (SF)
Nicolas Webb (RCGP) (NW)
Jo Mower (Unscheduled Care) (JM)
Sara Moseley (GMC) (SM)
Alka Ahuja (RCPsych) (AA)
Ceri Davies (RCS) (CD)
Iona Collins (BMA) (IC)
Helen Baker (HEIW) (HB)
Lowri Jackson (RCP) (LJ)
Push Mangat (HEIW) (PM)
Sarah Miller (BMA) (SM)
Rowena Christmas VC (RCGP) (RC)
Daniel Edwards (GMC) (DE)
Olwen Williams VC (RCP) (OW)

Angharad Jones (RCOG) (AJ)
Nicola Davis-Job (RCN)
Craig Hughes AA (Guest)
Alex Wolley PA (Guest)
Lisa Churchill AA (Guest)

Apologies: Frank Atherton (CMO)
Chris Jones (DCMO)
Allan Wardhaugh
Jonathan Kell (RCPath)
Angela Mutlow (CHC)
Philip Kloer (FMLM)
Chris Jones (HEIW)
Jack Parry-Jones (FICM)
Phillip Wardle (RCRad)
David Tuthill (RCPCH)
Clifford Jones (EOLC Lead)

External Stakeholder Presentations:

1. Physician Associates - Alex Wolley

Brief outline of PA role given including training pathway & Examination requirements.

Faculty of Physician Associates (FPA) is a faculty of the RCP.

Current voluntary registration, GMC registration system likely – legislation pending.

Obstacles include:

- Negative media
- Perception of encroaching on doctor's work
- Rural posts (pertinent to Wales geography)
- Lacking career development support

Action – Alex to share PA twitter account with AT to allow support during PA week (start October)

Discussion – mixed views expressed verbally and in the TEAMS chat including:
BMA position noted – concerns flagged around blurred job role boundaries (partly due to the job title wording) and negative impact on training opportunities for training grade doctors.

HEIW have noted positive feedback on training including training facilitated by PAs.

2. Anaesthetic Associates - Lisa Churchill

Brief overview of role. Current governance similar to PA role.

Restrictions to role:

- Myths (jobs/training)
- Change in culture
- Regulation (GMC pending legislation)
- Financial investment
- Evidence of value (current evidence mainly anecdotal)
- Lack of identity/fit e.g. on AfC complicates line management by consultant
- Limited career structure

Roles may provide part of the answer to addressing NHS staffing shortfalls.

Discussion around training funding model proposal for England.

Action – Lisa to forward details of English model to Push to support planning in Wales.

3. NHS Executive Update Allan Wardhaugh – Cancelled as presenter unavailable.

4. HEIW Update Helen Baker / Push Mangat

Workforce planning 2024/25 Education Training Plan (ETP) talked through – see detail in the pre-meeting circulated paper.

Other points:

Planning to increase FP posts to match med student numbers in Wales.

When creating new training posts funding always an issue as it is a permanent change requiring the recurrent funding.

Increased numbers of GP trainees, but, now hitting capacity in terms of training placement availability.

Discussion:

Creating jobs within a specialty noted as 1 element to address current NHS demands. However, also noted that the system, needs to be considered in its entirety as building capacity in one area may benefit other downstream areas.

Noted that staff retention and attracting new staff is everyone's business – need to consider solutions, for example, split ED/ITU post, specialist (SAS) doctors.

LHBs need to be more proactive in planning.

Data quoted in side bar suggesting that only 1/3rd of advertised consultant physician posts were recruited to in 2021. Of the posts that were unfilled, approx. 70% had no eligible applicants.

5. GMC Update Sara Mosely

Noteworthy increase in SAS numbers overtaking numbers of trainee doctors, anecdotally may be resulting from proactive life style choice.

GMC data may be helpful in supporting HEIW planning – the data is available to access.

GMC training input – recent input to Betsi Cadwaladr given as example.

National training survey published – increased burnout noted.

State of Medical Education report due for publication next month.

Possibility of industrial/strike action in Wales acknowledged by GMC – statement on website.

North Wales Medical School – first part application received.

Internal Meeting

6. *Minutes from previous meeting*

1 minor correction noted - Suresh Pillai was in attendance

Actions in hand

7. *Chair report Abrie Theron*

Not much to update:

AoMRC Council 7 July 2022

Dissemination of guidelines meeting 14 July 2022

AoMRC Strategy Day 21 September 2022

England, attempting to build relationships with new government.

Training programmes – acknowledgement that out of date

? need to consider modernisation and flexibility.

England exploring delivering training at Integrated Care Board footprint.

8. *Updates*

a. COVID Enquiry Jack Parry-Jones

Resource requirement will probably exclude Academy explicit input.

b. Healthy Weight Healthy Wales Update David Tuthill

David on leave, but, nil significant to report.

c. Advanced & Future Care Planning Clifford Jones

Cliff on leave, no update

9. *AOB*

a. Chair position Abrie Theron

Abrie not challenged, happy to do one more year, however, succession planning needed for the for next year.

b. Domestic Abuse and VAWG Alex Gorton

- Significant gap in provision of forensic medical examination of adult victims of assault.
- Whilst strong services for children (via NAI pathways) or adults where there is a sexual element to the assault (via SARC) little exists to ensure high quality documenting and assessment of injuries for victims outside these groups e.g. domestic violence (where there is a particular gap in ability to help in prevention of VAWG).
- Would like Wales to lead the way in forensic clinics or similar in hospital where clinicians, safeguarding teams, and police can refer for a quality assessment. Hampered as well by the bizarre issue that whilst we have a specialist register for doctors practicing space medicine in the UK we don't for forensic & legal medicine so can be hard to maintain standards.
- Proposal to pull together a number of groups working in this arena that may not be linked in, acknowledging gap in provision for adults not classed as elderly.

Noted that Violence Prevention Unit doing some work in this arena:

Action: Alex and Jo Mower to pick up offline

Other active groups/stakeholders noted: NHS Confed, Older persons commissioner, third sector.

Agreed area of interest to AMRCW – Alex to lead.

Action – Alex to pull together principles paper for next meeting.

c. Winter plan update received from Jo Mower, covering a number of plans, not all achievable this winter.

d. BMA points raised by Iona:

- Single lead employer concerns e.g. junior doctors not paid. JDC has written to MD of shared services. HEIW agree with the concerns.
- RCOG exams cancellation due to Pearson View Bank holiday closure impacting on UK trainees, but, not overseas delegates. In addition to supporting the trainees that missed the exam, BMA also corresponding with all Colleges/Faculties to ask around contingency planning in order to mitigate against future cancellations due to unexpected events.

9. Next meeting Thursday 1 December 2022 – Likely pm as Minister able to attend.