



ROYAL COLLEGE OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNAECOLOGISTS
Minutes of a Meeting of Council held at the RCOG and virtually on
Friday, 28 April 2023

PRESENT

President	Miss Raneë Thakar (Chair)
Senior Vice President, Global Health	Professor Hassan Shehata
Vice President, Clinical Quality	Mrs Geeta Kumar
Vice President, Membership and Workforce	Dr Laura Hipple
Vice President, Academia and Strategy	Professor Asma Khalil
Vice President, Education	Mr Ian Scudamore

ELECTED FELLOWS

Mr Sherif Abdel-Fattah
Dr Jyotsna Acharya
Professor Dilly Anumba
Dr Alastair Campbell
Dr Mausumi Das
Professor Stergios Doumouchtsis
Professor Colin Duncan
Mr Sujeewa Fernando
Miss Fatima Husain
Mr Joseph Iskaros
Mr Andrew Leather
Dr Hans Nagar
Mr Andrew Pickersgill
Mr Andrew Sizer
Dr Suzanne O’Sullivan
Miss Melanie Tipples
Professor Basky Thilaganathan
Professor Peter von Dadelszen
Mr Philip Rolland

ELECTED MEMBERS

Dr George Attilakos
Dr Jenny Barber
Dr William Dudill
Dr Jonathan Frost
Ms Angharad Jones
Dr Chimwemwe Kalumbi
Dr Vanitha Kumar
Dr Javaid Muglu
Dr Hanan Mustafa
Dr Claire Thompson
Dr William Parry-Smith

MEMBERS

Dr Janet Barter, FSRH President
Dr Kat Barton, Vice Chair of Trainees Committee
Professor Emma Crosbie, Academic Board Chair
Ms Jane Plumb, Women’s Voices Lead
Dr Heidi Stelling MRCOG, Trainees Committee Chair

IN ATTENDANCE

Chief Executive	Ms Kate Lancaster
Interim Executive Director, External Affairs	Mr Ben Butler
Executive Director, Education and Quality	Ms Carly Edwards
Executive Director, Global, Membership & Governance	Ms Kristen Morgan
Business Administrator	Ms Natasha Sullivan

1 Welcome

The President welcomed all to the meeting, and extended a particular welcome to Dr Eman Toeima, joining today as the SAS/LED representative and to be ratified later in the meeting as the new SAS/LED Lead, and Dr Kat Barton as the new Trainees Committee, Vice Chair for Strategy.

The President noted that she would be writing to King Charles III on the occasion of his upcoming coronation to congratulate His Majesty on behalf of the College.

The President updated that, following the Council survey feedback discussed at the previous meeting, an update from the Trainees Committee and SAS/LED Representative had been included on the agenda, and the Vice Presidents' would take their written reports as read and raise one or two topics from their portfolio for discussion. The order of items on the agenda would be rotated regularly.

2 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from:

Professor Adam Balen FRCOG
Dr Hlupekile Chipeta MRCOG
Mr Alastair McKelvey MRCOG

3 Procedure for Business

3.1 RCOG Confidentiality Agreement and Declaration of Interest and Good Standing had been circulated. Council were asked to complete and return the form if they had not done so within the last year.

4 Minutes and Matters Arising

4.1 Resolved:

THAT the minutes of the Council meeting held on 24 February 2023 (A1089) and 2 March 2023 (A1090) were approved.

5 Obituaries

5.1 Resolved:

THAT the sympathy of Council be extended to the relatives of the following:

Dr Shu Ming Eric Fung, Fellow of China
Dr Fiona Rosemary Alice Kingston, Member of England
Mr Alan Malcolm Smith, Fellow of England
Professor Edwin Malcolm Symonds, Fellow of Australia
Miss Margaret Louise Wooder, Member of England

5.2 Tribute to Professor Malcolm Symonds, past Council member

The International representative for Australasia/ America/ Pacific Rim gave the tribute to Fellow Professor Malcolm Symonds.

5.3 Tribute to Professor Abdelsalam Gerais FRCOG

The Senior Vice President for Global Health gave the tribute for Fellow Professor Abdelsalam Gerais.

6 President

6.1 President report

The President shared a report of her recent activities, a highlight of which was speaking at the annual BSGE meeting in Manchester in April.

The President set out her three areas of focus to prioritise during her term of office, which align with the RCOG Strategy:

- 1) To oversee delivery of RCOG activity in relation to improved gynaecology surgery training
- 2) Reshape the College's inequalities work to focus on addressing racism and bias in the O&G profession and supporting members and fellows in the delivery of care
- 3) To drive the College's response to climate change and the need for improved environmental sustainability in the O&G profession

A scoping period across all of these priorities is underway and Council members were invited to contact the President directly if they wish to contribute.

6.2 Membership Engagement Council Workshop Report

The President reported a report with an overview of the discussion and key actions from the 24th February 2023 Council workshop on membership engagement. The President thanked Council members for their input. The workshop considered how College staff, Officers and Council representatives could achieve greater engagement with the membership.

The following actions were highlighted:

- Work to produce podcasts is in progress; Council encouraged to send suggested hot topics
- Officers Roadshows; Council requested to let Officers know of local meetings taking place that they could join
- Developing Union Street as a hub for members and offering more social events; it was highlighted that India Day is taking place in June which all are encouraged to join
- Getting Trainees involved in the College and holding a hybrid Trainee event; it was noted a Trainees reception will be held at College which Council are invited to join, and a joint Trainees event will be held with the Royal Society for Medicine
- Offering new and rebranded courses and events; the Senior Vice President for Global Health updated that a review of the courses is in progress and the aim is to offer balance between face to face and virtual events. The content of the courses is also included in the review.
- A generic RCOG presentation has been produced for RCOG post holders to use at events
- Lobbying to enable more time to be allocated to those with RCOG roles to spend with the College; the Chief Executive has written to the MD/CEO of Council members' Trusts to express appreciation for their support, where members have shared these details.
- Connecting with Clinical Directors; a joint NHSE/RCOG event for Clinical Directors is planned to be held at Union Street on 3rd November, for both obstetrics and gynaecology with a four nations approach. It was requested for Council members to share the names of Clinical Directors in their area with their permission, to help compile an up-to-date list.
- Council members are encouraged to promote and act as advocates for the College in their areas.

A Council member raised that Trainees struggle with the cost to attend face-to-face meetings at the College, and that recorded content that can be accessed at a later time is very valuable. However it was also noted that trainers/organisers often prefer delivering the courses in person.

A Council member felt that hybrid courses should be considered which can offer effective option for all; however this does have additional running costs.

A Council member encouraged the franchising of face-to-face courses; the Chief Executive responded that this is a priority now that the pandemic has passed. It was noted that quality control is important for franchised courses.

A Council member queried if an honorarium could be paid to course leaders for their time; the Chief Executive responded that this will be considered as part of the review, however there is need to balance the costs for payments against the cost charged to attendees.

The President will give regular updates to Council on the outcomes from this workshop.

7 Introduction from new Council members

The following new Council members introduced themselves:
Suzanne O'Sullivan, Fellows' representative for the Republic of Ireland

8 Education

8.1 Report on Education and Exam activities

The Vice President for Education reported that there continue to be challenges recruiting examiners for the MRCOG Part 3, particularly for the virtual exam. Examiners have been offered a complimentary place at the RCOG World Congress to help encourage members to volunteer.

A Council member highlighted a query from their constituent on incentives to volunteer for the virtual Part 3 exam. It was responded that a Task and Finish group has been created to review the Part 3 model with the aim to create a sustainable model for the future with the capacity to expand. The outcome of the group's consideration will be shared with Council once concluded.

A Council member raised how the College could also incentivise members who volunteer their time to contribute to the College courses and events; the Chief Executive responded that the volunteer model is a challenge that all Royal Medical Colleges are currently facing and considering how to manage.

8.2 Advanced Training Review

The Vice President thanked Council member and SEAC Chair, Dr Alastair Campbell, and the Education team staff, following closure of the consultation period for the Advanced Training Review on 14 April. A webinar took place at the end of March to share the proposals and answer questions from members and trainees, and a meeting was also held with the Heads of Schools to discuss the proposals. The Women's Network have been consulted and given their feedback on the proposals.

The feedback from the consultation has been collated and a summary of the highlights and emerging themes was presented to Council. Overall, the revision have been well received and positive feedback received on the additional time to complete SITMs. There are concerns about expertise and training capacity for early pregnancy scanning, job prospects with some aspects removed, the transition and timeline for implementation, and the provision of SITMS for ST5. The Heads of School were concerned that they would not be able to deliver all the SITMs in their school/deanery.

A Council member raised concern that some of the modules could not be provided in all areas. It was responded that this feedback relates primarily to two new modules (including robotic surgery), which will take time to be rolled out across the country.

A Council member raised a related point that the lack of access to the abortion care module has a significant impact on long-term service delivery.

The Vice President for Education responded that the implementation would be discussed in greater detail with Heads of Schools as the plans are taken forward, to identify where there are challenges.

A Council member highlighted that the recent RCOG Workforce Report included an analysis of the uptake of ATSMs and this data could be shared with the Education team to inform the review.

It was noted that the BSGE have raised concerns relating to the gynaecology modules and a meeting would be held with the society to discuss their feedback further.

A Council member thanked the College for their work on the review and noted that overall feedback from the consultation had been positive, and the proposals will delivery significant benefits for future trainees.

Once reviewed, the full consultation outcomes will shape the College's formal submission to the GMC later this year. Further work will be undertaken regarding the availability of ATSMs, in relation to what is currently offered.

It is planned to implement the changes by August 2024, and share guidance with Heads of Schools by February 2024 to inform their planning.

9 Clinical Quality

9.1 Report on Clinical Quality Activities

The Vice President for Clinical Quality reported that an OAS12 launch event was being held at the College on Friday 26 May. The first draft of the women's experiences paper for this project has been written, and data analysis is underway for the main outcomes and facilitation papers.

To increase transparency with the guideline development process, a dashboard has been published on the RCOG website providing a status report on guidance currently under development or review. This is in response to feedback and queries on the status of specific guidance documents and shares the information openly so that it is available to all. The dashboard currently includes Green-top Guidelines; in due course, the other guidance documents will also be added. The Vice President encouraged any feedback to be sent to her.

9.2 NVOG collaboration

An update was presented on a European guidance production collaboration led and funded by the Dutch College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (NVOG). The Guidelines Committee Chairs are leading our contribution to the project.

A pilot suite of three new guidance documents has been produced in collaboration so far. The Dutch language versions have been published and the English language versions will be published in EJOG shortly. It is being decided how they will be linked to from the RCOG website. It is also to be agreed how the guidance documents will be updated.

A Council member queried the purpose of the collaboration. It was responded that cross-College and country learning was a key aim.

A Council member queried whether a past guidance adaptation tool could be used, as that is applicable across the World rather than just to Europe. The Chief Executive responded that there were governance and liability issues with the previous tool and that it had therefore been paused; this would be revisited however in the meantime, it does not inhibit individuals from adapting the guidance themselves.

A Council member congratulated the team for the collaboration and suggested that it would be important to understand the rules on publication and that a conversation with the BJOG Chief Editor could be beneficial to facilitate the potential of joint publication across different journals including BJOG.

A Council member cautioned that there is a need to ensure that guidance is not duplicated and that all guidance documents are aligned, as they can be used for legal purposes. The Vice President responded that the project aims to produce new guidance topics so that there is no risk of duplication and so that the suite of available guidance expands.

10 Global Health

10.1 Report on Global Health Activities

The Senior Vice President for Global Health thanked College and Council colleagues for their support in response to the crisis in Sudan and noted that a letter of support has been sent to the Sudan Doctors Union (UK) expressing deep sadness at the events unfolding in Sudan.

A successful and well-attended webinar marking International Women's Day was held in March. The event focused on the issue of tackling stigma in women's health, an important area of focus for the College's international programmes. It is planned to repeat the event in 2024. The Women's Voices Lead, Ms Jane Plumb, was thanked for chairing the event.

It was noted that the Annual Professional Development Conference was held virtually in February/March and was very successful.

The preparation for the RCOG World Congress, being hosted as a hybrid event from Union Street in June, are progressing well. At the time of the Council meeting, more than 550 in-person and 1239 virtual delegates had registered and a waiting list has been opened to accommodate the demand for in-person attendees. Council members will be asked to kindly support the Congress by chairing sessions and are encouraged to network with delegates and exhibitors.

The Senior Vice President, President, Council representative for MENA region, and Vice President for Academia and Strategy, will be attending the annual RCOG Egyptian IRC conference in May. The pilot FGM toolkit will be launched at the meeting.

A Council member raised concerns that the elections for International Representatives Committees (IRCs) members are long overdue and asked when they will be commenced. The Chief Executive apologised for the delays and that the pandemic meant that some elections could not be run. There is now a plan in place to restart the elections, commencing with high-priority areas, with the aim to have caught up within the next 12 months.

A Council member raised that local groups are not running in the America and Australasia regions. It was responded that there is low engagement in countries where the MRCOG exam is not recognised, and there is a need to focus on countries where there is potential future membership. The President noted that the International Liaison Groups are also important and need to be embraced. It was noted that a review of the Liaison Groups is underway which seeks to build on areas of best practice; it is hoped to link Liaison Groups and IRCs together, and potentially have groups across regions instead of individual countries which could be particularly suitable for Sub-Saharan Africa.

A Council member raised that a member of their constituency had queried that the MRCOG is not recognised in their country and asked if the College could engage with the medical council in the relevant country; the President responded that it is a local issue, and the Chief Executive shared that the RCOG has developed an accreditation model, including structured training and taking the MRCOG exam, which will assist with this. The aim is that the accreditation model can be rolled out further in the future.

A Council member highlighted competition from the American, Canadian and European Colleges, effecting different countries and regions, and queried if the MRCOG could be adapted to be an exit exam. Another Council member suggested that the granting of Honorary Fellowships could be helpful to strengthen the position of the MRCOG abroad in particular regions.

It was agreed that it would be valuable to hold a session on the RCOG accreditation model with Council.

11 Membership and Workforce

11.1 Report on Membership and Workforce activities

The Vice President for Membership and Workforce thanked all the Council members, Officers and members of staff, who were involved in the two membership ceremonies which took place on 27 April 2023. Eight further ceremonies are planned in London throughout 2023, with international ceremonies planned for Malaysia in August and India in October. Council members were thanked for their ongoing support to the London ceremonies.

The College is actively engaged in a membership transformation programme which includes work on the Elevation to Fellowship process, a new Retired Fellows and Members proposition and Associate audiences and opportunities for growth. The outcomes of the programme will be shared with Council at a future meeting.

The Certificate of Eligibility for Short-Term Locums became a mandatory requirement for some locum placements in England from February. It is anticipated that this will be rolled out to the devolved nations in due course. The RCOG host the platform for doctors to gain their certificate and the team has been fielding enquiries from locum agencies and doctors working as locums.

Council members were requested to encourage colleagues to complete the certificate if applicable and cautioned that evidence must be dated within two years.

The certificate is referenced in the NHSE 3 Year Delivery Plan for Maternity and Neonatal services. It is also proposed to be part of the Year 5 Maternity Incentive Scheme Safety Actions when they are published later in the year.

A number of steps have been taken to streamline the job planning approval process, including updating the checklist used for review and the timeline for chasing reviewers and trusts. An internal audit of the service was undertaken in March and the resulting report is awaited.

A Council member raised that they know of many consultants who are not members of the College and queried if a figure is known for this group. It was responded NHS Employers would need to advise this figure, and that these colleagues would be encouraged to become associates of the College.

A Council member queried if the College monitors the number of UK members and fellows who chose to leave the College membership, as this could be cause for concern if it is increasing. It was responded that this figure is low, and that it is important that the benefits to membership encourage people to remain members.

A Council member queried what the benefits of being an associate of the College are. It was also raised that members need to see a tangible benefit from their membership fees, and that it is important the RCOG has a clear narrative of the work it carries out.

The Chief Executive noted a presentation on the benefits of membership which will be shared with Council members and can be used when they are speaking to colleagues in their region.

11.2 Elevation of Members to Fellowship

The list of Members for elevation to Fellowship, as circulated to the Fellows on Council, was approved.

It was requested for future that the region of members be included with the information sent to Fellows to review.

12 Strategy and Academia

12.1 Report on Strategy and Academia activities

The Vice President for Strategy and Academia reported that work on the College's maternity safety strategy, which has been initiated in response to recently published reports, is progressing. An audit of all College activity that aims to enhance safer maternity safety has been completed. The first meeting of the oversight group will take place in May. The council will be engaged in this work to share an update and ask for input at a future Council meeting. It is planned to launch the College's Maternity Safety Ambition in October.

A key milestone of the Workforce Planning Tool project was met at the beginning of March with the delivery of the essential HES data from NHS Digital and the confirmation from the project team that this was accurate and fit for purpose. The revised launch date of both the tool and the supporting report is now planned for July, following the completion of user testing.

A high standard of applications were received for the role of Workplace Behaviour Adviser as part of the College's 'Supporting our Doctors' work and two individuals have been appointed on a role-share agreement. A review has also been of the College's online well-being resources hub and this will be updated and enhanced to help signpost members to appropriate resources and sources of support.

It was noted that the 2023 awards application window opened on 13 March and is due to close on Thursday 11 May. Applications will be reviewed and scored by representatives of the RCOG Academic Board and the final shortlist of award winners will be shared with Council in September for approval.

13 CEO

13.1 CEO Update

The Chief Executive's circulated report on the work of the College across a range of activity, constructed around the four goals of the RCOG strategy, was noted.

Two international membership admission ceremonies are being arranged this year – in Malaysia and India, to facilitate further engagement with overseas members.

The College is running a marketing and IRC engagement project to increase the number of potential MRCOG exam candidates. This work so far has resulted in a 33% increase in eligible candidates for Part 1 and a 25% increase for Part 2 – taking the total number of eligible candidates for Part 1 to 8,921 and Part 2 to 7,680.

The College's new learning management system has now been live for 6 months. In that time over 7,000 users have accessed content on the platform and there have been over 2.4 million page views. An increase of a fifth compared to figures from the same period in 2022. The final phase of the project will focus on content diversification opportunities and will include piloting podcasts, video resources and mock examinations.

There have been numerous successes in relation to the advocacy and political engagement activity that are undertaken on behalf of the membership and profession, including safe access zones around abortion clinics being voted into law by MPs.

The College's work responding to the public inquiry into the UK's handling of the COVID-19 pandemic continues. Whilst no further requests have been received this year following the two requests made of the College for modules two and three in December last 2022, preparation is being undertaken in readiness for future requests.

A Council member highlighted a study that is being undertaken funded by the NIHR on the impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic and encouraged College Officers and Council members to link with Professor Laura Magee at King's College to input.

It was noted that news of future funding is awaited on from the DHSC for phase 3 of the ABC programme, and for year 2 of the workforce staffing tool.

14 Academic

14.1 Report on Academic activities

The Academic Board Chair reported that the Board are trying to ensure inclusivity in research and academic progression, through mentoring and speakers to talk on careers in academia.

The RCOG Research current web content is in the process of being reviewed, with a goal to enhance RCOG Research's web presence and engagement with members, and to be able to articulate the new process for specialist societies and legacy CSGs to submit PICOs.

The Vice President for Academia and Strategy suggested that it would be valuable to host a webpage of ongoing studies in the UK which would need to be kept regularly updated. It was agreed this would be a valuable addition.

15 Women's Network

The Women's Voices Lead noted the circulated written update on recent activities of the Network and Women's Voices Panel.

The Women's Network continues to support work across the breadth of College activity. Network members Maria Viner and Emma Crookes presented on maternal mental health and urogynaecology services as part of the 'Listening to Women' session at the Annual Professional Development Conference at the end of February.

In March, the Women's Voices Lead attended a roundtable along with Kate Lancaster at 10 Downing Street to discuss the Women's Health Strategy for England. The event was co-chaired by Maria Caulfield MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Mental Health and Women's Health Strategy, and Professor Dame Lesley Regan, Women's Health Ambassador.

The College is currently in the process of recruiting two Women's Network vice chairs and three additional network members, which will increase the resource of the Network and gain additional valuable perspectives and increase the diversity of voices.

16 FSRH

The President of FSRH reported that the FSRH continues its efforts to grow support for the FSRH Hatfield Vision within the SRH community. RCOG President, Raneer Thakar, has confirmed she will serve as a Vice-Chair of the FSRH Hatfield Vision Taskforce, which is due to hold its first meeting in June. One of the key aims of the Taskforce will be to reduce inequalities within SRH, and bring partners together to coordinate and strengthen the power of the group.

The FSRH Annual Scientific Meeting is taking place in Glasgow in June, which has an academic focus, and Council members were encouraged to attend.

The Vice President for Global Health raised that there is potential for future global health initiatives regarding contraception services for young people in low-income countries. Further discussions will take place between the RCOG and FSRH following the meeting.

17 Board of Trustees

17.1 Report from 3 March 2023 meeting

The Council elected Trustee reported that at the March Board of Trustees meeting they had fed-back on the Council February workshop on membership engagement.

It was noted that Kate Mathers had retired as a Trustee. A new Trustee, Leila Pilgrim, has been appointed, and Trustee Roy Clarke has been appointed as the Chair of Audit and Risk Committee.

18 Trainees

18.1 Report from Trainees' Committee Chair

The Trainees' Committee Chair welcomed their new Vice Chair for Strategy, Dr Kat Barton. The Chair reported that engagement is still an issue for the National Trainees Committee, and the virtual meetings mean that networking opportunities are missed.

Key priorities for the committee are the environment and sustainability, differential attainment, and the Multi-Specialty Recruitment Assessment (MSRA) tool. The Advanced Training Review is also a key topic recently and there are some concerns on the implementation of this.

An evening reception for Trainees will take place at the RCOG Congress in June, and the National Trainees Conference is planned to return for a face-to-face meeting in 2024.

19 SAS/LED

19.1 Report from SAS/LED Representative

The SAS/LED Representative reported on work to increase SAS-LED representation on College Boards and Committees. At a recent Academy of Medical Royal Colleges meeting, it was highlighted that obstetrics and gynaecology have high levels of SAS-LED representation.

The President asked how the College and members can improve the representation and treatment of SAS-LED doctors in O&G.

The SAS/LED representative responded that raising awareness with clinical leaders and the co-production of guidance is valuable. She also welcomed Council members to contact her directly with any concerns and if there are any SAS-LED colleagues who would like to be involved in the RCOG committee.

20 Council Membership

20.1 Committee and Honorary Appointments

The fifty-two new appointments and thirteen extensions to RCOG Committee posts were ratified.

20.2 Council reps on Boards and Committees

Council members were asked to express interest in the following vacant positions on RCOG Boards and Committees:

EDI Committee: Member or Fellow

Audit and Risk Committee: Member or Fellow

Clinical Quality Board: Member

21 Reports/minutes

The following minutes were circulated to note:

21.1 Clinical Quality Board minutes 10 March 2023

21.2 Education Board minutes 2 March 2023

21.3 Academic Board minutes 9 March 2023

22 Proposal for Uncoupling Core and Higher Training

The Vice President for Education introduced that the RCOG Workforce report published in 2022 highlighted the need to address workforce shortages, rota gaps and attrition rates from the specialty. As a response a proposal has been developed to reshape the O&G training pathway through uncoupling core and higher training, and Council were asked if they support the proposal in principle.

Dr Farah Siddiqui, RCOG Workforce Clinical Fellow, joined the meeting to present Council with information on the proposal and feedback from stakeholder consultation that has been undertaken with groups including medical students, trainees, Heads of School, specialist societies, Clinical Directors and the Women's Network. The proposal has also been discussed and received support in principle from the Education Board. The Fellows' representative for the Republic of Ireland also shared reflections from training in Ireland, which has been uncoupled.

The meeting was suspended to allow discussion of the proposal in breakout groups, following which the meeting was re-convened for Council debate.

Council discussed the proposal, and the following points were raised:

- That further consultation is needed with senior leaders, Clinical Directors, patient groups and the BMA
- Whether the proposal would improve clinical quality or offer development benefits
- That the proposal would require considerable resource to implement
- Whether ST3 is the right place to break training and could increase attrition at that stage
- Whether the proposal is needed, or if the issue could be tackled using tools already in place, such as Out of Programme options
- That the proposal may not help the rota gaps
- That it would be valuable to look at models of training from other countries
- That the proposal may improve the quality of training programmes
- That half of the College's members are overseas and queried how the proposal could impact them
- That the proposal does not deal with the core issues of attrition and needing a skilled and sustainable workforce
- That there would be increased pressure on trainees to undergo more interviews
- That there are significant positives to the proposal including a clear pathway and offer of portfolio careers
- That staggered entry would help rota gaps and increase flexibility for trainees
- That there is not support for separate training scheme for academics
- That more flexibility is needed in training
- It was confirmed that the GMC would need to be consulted before the proposal would be taken ahead

The Vice President for Education thanked Council for their input and concluded that there was not strong support from Council to take forward the proposal at this time, and that further discussions would take place internally and an update will be shared with Council.

23 Any other business

No items of other business were raised.