

**ROYAL COLLEGE OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNAECOLOGISTS**  
**Minutes of a Meeting of Council held at the RCOG and virtually on**  
**Friday, 26 April 2024**

**PRESENT**

President	Miss Raneer 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  
Professor Alastair Campbell  
Professor Justin Clark  
Professor Peter von Dadelszen  
Miss Mausumi Das  
Professor Stergios Doumouchtsis  
Professor Colin Duncan  
Mr Sujeewa Fernando  
Miss Fatima Husain  
Mr Joseph Iskaros  
Professor Swati Jha  
Mr Andrew Leather  
Dr Hans Nagar  
Dr Suzanne O’Sullivan  
Mr Andrew Pickersgill  
Mr Dudley Robinson  
Mr Philip Rolland  
Miss Melanie Tipples

**ELECTED MEMBERS**

Dr Jenny Barber  
Dr Hlupekile Chipeta  
Dr William Dudill  
Dr Peter Harris  
Dr Angharad Jones  
Mrs Vanitha Kumar  
Dr Hanan Mustafa  
Dr Claire Thompson  
Dr Alison Wiggans

**MEMBERS**

Dr Janet Barter FRCOG, FSRH President  
Dr Kat Barton MRCOG, Trainees’ Committee Chair  
Ms Emma Crookes, Women’s Network Vice-Chair  
Dr Eman Toeima FRCOG, Specialty and Associate Specialist and Locally Employed Doctors Lead

## IN ATTENDANCE

Chief Executive	Ms Kate Lancaster
Executive Director, External Affairs	Mr Ben Butler
Executive Director, Education and Quality	Ms Carly Edwards
Executive Director, Global, Membership & Governance	Ms Kristen Morgan
Executive Director, Finance & Commercial	Ms Ashley Wang
Head of Corporate Governance and Risk	Mr Christopher Smith
Business Administrator	Ms Natasha Sullivan

1	<b>Welcome</b> The President welcomed all to the meeting.
2	<b>Apologies for absence</b> Apologies for absence were received from: Emma Crosbie FRCOG Chimwemwe Kalumbi MRCOG Javaid Muglu MRCOG William Parry-Smith MRCOG Jane Plumb FRCOG
3	<b>RCOG Confidentiality Agreement and Declaration of Interest and Good Standing</b> RCOG Confidentiality Agreement and Declaration of Interest and Good Standing had been circulated. Council was asked to complete and return the form if they had not done so within the last year.
4	<b>Minutes and Matters Arising</b>
4.1	<b>Minutes from the last meeting</b> The minutes from the meeting held on 9 February 2024 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.
4.2	<b>Actions record</b> The actions from the 9 February 2024 meeting of Council were noted.  Council discussed a concern previously raised by a Council member regarding the Tommy's decision-support tool. The President confirmed that the concern and response from the Clinical Lead had been sent to the peer review group. An update will be provided at the next Council meeting.
5.1	<b>Obituaries</b> <b>Resolved:</b> That the sympathy of Council be extended to the relatives of the following: Dr Ubaka Gregory Ofili – Fellow of Scotland Mr Jonathan Martin Frappell – Fellow of England Professor George Durand Malkasian – Fellow of United States of America Mr David Alun Rees – Fellow of England Dr Rudra Bahan Chatterjee – Fellow of India
5.2	The Fellows' representative for the South West gave the tribute to Mr Jonathan Frappell FRCOG.
5.3	The Fellows' representative for London South gave the tribute to Mr Peter Mason FRCOG.
6	<b>Regional presentations</b>
6.1	<b>Thames Valley and Wessex</b> The Fellows and Members' representatives for Thames Valley and Wessex presented an update from the region.  <u>Wessex</u> Council was informed that Wessex was a large region encompassing nine university hospitals and 10 maternity providers, eight of which have trainees. It was noted that, in terms of CQC ratings, the region was relatively challenged.

It was highlighted that the region is home to the Peritoneal Malignancy Institute Basingstoke and the National Burns Unit in Salisbury, and has been a pioneer in terms of the physician associate role.

In terms of TEF data, the region is performing above average in many areas. The implementation of wellbeing day and other related actions by the Deanery has made a significant difference to trainees in the region and it was suggested that there may be lessons here for the RCOG and other deaneries across the country.

#### Thames Valley

Council was informed that the Thames Valley region encompasses five main Trusts across the three counties of Berkshire, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire. The Trusts are Royal Berkshire, Stoke Mandeville and Wycombe, Wexham Park, Milton Keynes and the Oxford John Radcliffe. Three of these five Trusts are rated as 'Good' by the CQC. The workforce profiles and key activities of each of these sites was discussed.

In terms of TEF data, in contrast to Wessex, the Thames Valley region has not performed as well. It was noted that this is a consequence of a range of factors including short-staffing and sickness and commented that morale was low in general across the region.

Council thanked the Representatives for their presentation. The disconnect between the CQC ratings for Trusts in the Thames Valley region and feedback from the TEF was discussed. It was suggested that this was likely a consequence of different metrics being considered in each instance. The importance of having a good ratio of Consultants to trainees was highlighted to improve the quality and experience of training.

6.2

#### **Wales**

The Fellows and Members representatives for Wales presented an update from the region.

Council was informed that Wales is a geographically large region with a fairly small but aging population. The region has significant areas of inequality and deprivation.

Wales has seven Health Boards, not Trusts, with Betsi Cadwaladr being the largest.

In terms of TEF data, North Wales performs better than the rest of Wales and it is acknowledged that there are lessons to be learned for Southern Wales. Some of the challenges relate to the large area for trainees to travel and the number of rotations across Southern Wales.

Several of the O&G stakeholders in Wales were discussed including HEIW, the strategic workforce body for NHS Wales, the Trainees in Wales' Obstetrics & Gynaecology Society, which has 413 members in Wales and receives funding from the RCOG, and the O&G Society of Wales. In addition, it was highlighted that the RCOG's Welsh Executive Committee meets quarterly and provides expert multidisciplinary advice to Welsh Government.

Council discussed some of the wider challenges to the O&G profession in Wales. These include recruitment and retention challenges, strike action, loss of academic departments and work to implement the Ockenden recommendations.

Council thanked the Representatives for their presentation.

7

#### **President's Report**

The President updated Council on progress towards the delivery of the Presidential Priorities.

The report was taken as read. A confidential discussion then took place regarding the Tommy's decision-pathway support tool.

8

#### **Clinical Quality**

**8.1 Report on Clinical Quality Activities**

The Vice President for Clinical Quality presented the Report on Clinical Quality Activities.

Council was informed that a new Green Top Guideline focusing on “The Management of Nausea and Vomiting of Pregnancy and Hyperemesis Gravidarum” had been published in February 2024. In addition, a Good Practice Paper on “Managing Events Surrounding a Maternal Death and Supporting the Family and Staff” had been published, as well as guidance on the “Management of unscheduled bleeding on the HRT.”

It was noted that the College had undertaken work to translate 11 existing patient information resources into 13 languages, helping address inequalities in receiving and accessing care. These were launched on 15 April. Council members were encouraged to use and signpost these resources and feedback to the Clinical Quality Team.

The College has successfully recruited Dr Catherine Calderwood as the Chair of Patient Safety Committee. The Vice President for Clinical Quality placed on record their thanks to the previous Chair, Dr Simon Cunningham who steps down in May.

The contract with the Department for Health and Social Care for ABC Phase 3 has been signed and work is underway to recruit clinical roles for the programme, with a planned start date of 1 May 2024.

Council was notified that the College had now received all of the English maternity data from 2019-2023 and was working to produce up-to-date NMPA reporting. It is likely that reports will be produced this year with a view to publishing these in early 2025.

The College has been successful in its bid to NIHR to measure the experience of maternity service users by developing a maternity PREM. The College will now work with The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine to establish the project.

The Clinical Quality and Policy Teams are undertaking a piece of work looking at gynaecological waiting lists. A series of focus groups with secondary care clinicians are being held online as well as in-person across London, Birmingham and Liverpool. Council members were encourage to share the information with clinical and operational colleagues. In addition, a survey for women on waiting lists for gynaecological surgery has been launched. Again, Council members were encouraged to promote this where possible. It was noted that the project team are particularly interested in the experience of those from ethnic minority groups.

Council discussed the process for producing clinical guidelines and, in particular, how the quality of the guidelines could be maintained whilst reducing the time to publication. It was confirmed that this is an area that the College is investigating. The College receives extremely positive feedback on the quality of its guidelines which are produced with the support of its voluntary workers.

Council noted the Report on Clinical Quality Activities.

**9. Report on Membership and Workforce Activities**

The Vice President for Membership and Workforce presented the Report on Membership and Workforce Activities.

Council was informed that the College’s Career Hub had been updated on the RCOG website. This includes information for medical students or foundation doctors considering a career in O&G as well as information on the specialty training programme, recruitment and exams. The College is also working with the British Undergraduate Society for O&G and the RCOG Trainees Committee to host a free virtual career event aimed at medical students and foundation doctors. The event will be recorded with free access to content available for three months.

	<p>Several new initiatives and resources developed by the College and aimed at improving member wellbeing were highlighted to Council including a Wellbeing Hub, and ongoing work with peer-to-peer advisors and workforce behaviour champions.</p> <p>A new membership engagement toolkit, developed for Council members to support engagement in their regions, and a new return to work toolkit have also been launched on the RCOG website.</p> <p>The RCOG’s Membership Survey launches in May and all members are encouraged to complete this. It is an important mechanism by which the College is able to understand the wants and needs of its membership. The results of the survey will be shared with Council once the survey has concluded.</p> <p>Council commented that the work on member wellbeing was important and emphasised that the College would need to be proactive in order to maintain the job satisfaction of the O&amp;G workforce. It was agreed that an email from NHSE discussing workforce wellbeing would be circulated to all Council members.</p> <p>Council noted the Report on Membership and Workforce Activities.</p>
<p><b>9.2</b></p>	<p><b>Membership Data 2024</b></p> <p>The Director of Membership, Mr Paul Roberts, joined the meeting to present on membership data.</p> <p>It was noted that the College had seen a 5% growth in membership over the last 12 months, from 16,666 to over 17,500. Since the start of the RCOG’s five-year strategy, the membership has grown by 15%.</p> <p>The College now has members across 125 countries with 48% of its total membership based overseas. The College has seen growth in most areas, with the most significant seen in Pakistan. Where there has been a decline in membership numbers this has been context specific. For example, in Australia the decline is a consequence of the prominence of RANZCOG and a large retired community.</p> <p>Growth in Fellows is less pronounced than in other areas. As part of the College’s Membership Transformation Programme, the College is reviewing its elevation to fellowship offer to ensure that this is attractive to members. This has included work to contact all Members who are eligible for fellowship. The results of the Membership Transformation Programme will be presented to Council in due course.</p> <p>The College has seen significant growth in the number of Associates. This is a consequence of promotional activity focusing on Associate benefits such as promoting exams and associate resources for exam candidates.</p> <p>Council discussed how to make the offer for lower-income countries more attractive. It was confirmed that member’s fees were weighted fees based on World Bank bandings. However, barriers do persist. The importance of regional IRCs in engaging with overseas Members and Fellows was emphasised.</p> <p>Council thanked the Director of Membership for their presentation.</p>
<p><b>10.1</b></p>	<p><b>Report on Academia and Strategy Activities</b></p> <p>The Vice President for Academia and Strategy presented the Report on Academia and Strategy Activities.</p> <p>Applications for the 2024 RCOG Awards cycle are now open. Council was asked to encourage trainees and colleagues to apply. In particular, it was noted that the College was pleased to be supporting two UK based trainees with a bursary to travel to South Korea to attend the Asia and Oceania Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Congress in May 2024.</p>

	<p>Council noted that the College is finalising the proposal to conduct a research prioritisation exercise with the James Lind Alliance. Work is expected to begin by mid-2024.</p> <p>The Vice President for Academia and Strategy has taken over as the Chair of the Academic Board from Professor Emma Crosbie. A number of new members have also recently been appointed to the Board.</p> <p>An update was provided on the NIHR E-learning project. Modules 1 and 2 are now complete and have been adapted following peer review. Module 3 has been built and is currently being peer reviewed. Module 4 has been delayed slightly but the project team is hopeful that the project will be completed in the second half of 2024. The modules are an important tool for trainees and those interested in research.</p> <p>Council noted the report on Academia and Strategy activities.</p>
<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>NHS New Hospitals Programme: maternity</b></p> <p>Eamonn Sullivan and Rahul Chodhari joined the meeting to present on the NHS New Hospitals Programme, which is a flagship programme to invest £20bn to upgrade 40 hospitals.</p> <p>Council was informed that this New Hospitals Programme was the single largest investment in the NHS estate since its inception. It is the first time in history that an NHS programme has been classified as a major national programme, put in the same category as major infrastructure projects such as HS2.</p> <p>The New Hospitals Programme team are exploring innovative ways in which the new hospitals can be designed and have undertaken a significant amount of work focusing on how these buildings can be standardised. It was emphasised that clinical voice in the design of the building was important.</p> <p>There will be an event on 7 June hosted by the NHSE National Medical Director. It was highlighted that this event was an opportunity for the College to influence discussions around the New Hospitals Programme and Council members were encouraged to join this if possible. It was confirmed that the Vice President for Education and Senior Vice President for Global Health would be in attendance.</p> <p>Council thanked Eamonn Sullivan and Rahul Chodhari for their presentation. Council members supported the drive for standardisation but also highlighted that there would need to be some local variation in terms of how care was designed and delivered. It was confirmed that the New Hospitals Programme team was seeking standardisation in terms of how the buildings were structured not in terms of care.</p> <p>Council highlighted a need to future proof any new buildings and also to ensure that there was dedicated space for staff wellbeing. It was confirmed that it is intended for 6-7% of new build space to be dedicated to staff wellbeing and that there is an expectation that any designs are put forward with staff wellbeing at the heart.</p> <p>Council enquired how the New Hospitals Programme team will work to ensure that any new hospital helps to reduce inequality within the area. It was confirmed that the New Hospitals Programme team are working closely with public health colleagues, integrated care board and other regional teams to ensure that the needs of local populations are addressed.</p>
<p><b>11.</b></p>	<p><b>Report on Education and Exams Activities</b></p> <p>The Vice President for Education presented the Report on Education and Exams activities.</p> <p>Council was updated on the MRCOG Part 1 and 2 exams which had taken place in January and February 2024 and had experienced continued growth in candidate numbers. These exams were supported by over 500 clinical examiners and 300 lay examiners. During the next six months focus will be placed on continuing review of balance of SBA/EMQ and other methodologies for assessment and</p>

the development and promotion of overseas expansion and reach for global women's health standards.

With regards to MRCOG Part 3 exams, Council noted that the College is exploring opportunities to improve examiner diversity including through a review of examiner eligibility criteria. The College will publish overall pass rate data per exam diet in line with AoMRC guidance. Opportunities for expansion overseas both within existing and new centres will also be explored.

Council was updated on surgical training in obstetrics and gynaecology. A recent Surgical Training Summit helped to surface a number of issues for stakeholders including mentorship and joint working, a lack of continuity in training and case mix.

Council was updated on ST1 recruitment variable fill rate. The 2024 National Recruitment Process, which is managed by NHSE and supported by the RCOG has resulted in only 239 offers being accepted from 2170 applications received. An extraordinary round of ST1 recruitment will be run on 23 and 24 May.

Council discussed the ST1 recruitment variable fill rate. It was highlighted that part of the issue had been that all of the specialties had been competing with each other to fill positions. Many of the top candidates undertake multiple interviews and are given multiple offers which both takes up interview capacity and reduces fall-back options when offers are not accepted. It was suggested that the reasons for candidates not taking up offers is multi-factoral and that consideration should be given to how best to promote the specialty. It was agreed that a Council workshop focusing on recruitment and retention within obstetrics and gynaecology would be beneficial.

Council noted the Report on Education and Exams Activities.

**13. Report on Global Health Activities**

The Senior Vice President for Global Health presented the Report on Global Health activities.

Council noted that the Making Abortion Safe programme has now concluded. The programme has created a large number of advocates and champions for future programmes. An external evaluation of the programme has been undertaken which has highlighted the programme's significant impact in supporting healthcare professionals to address barriers to safe abortion.

Council was informed that the Gynaecological Health Matters Programme in Bangladesh has made significant progress in the last six months. In addition, the Gynaecological Health Matters Programme in Nigeria has started implementation following approval of funding and signing of the donor contract. A concept note is being drafted to scale up the funding of the programme in Rwanda after a series of positive meetings with the Ministry and the Rwandan Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists in Rwanda.

The College was unsuccessful in its WISH2 bid in partnership with Crown Agents. The incumbent provider was the successful bidder. Good relationships have been established with Crown Agents and the learning will be taken forward for future bids.

Council noted that training for 120 health workers on combatting FGM was rolled out in Cairo and Upper Egypt in March. The RCOG's Chief Executive and President were both in attendance at the launch which garnered senior support from the Ministry of Health in Egypt. The training is being evaluated but feedback has been positive and demonstrates an improved understanding of the complications of FGM.

Council discussed the College's work on FGM and enquired whether the College's work would expand to areas of the world which had medicalised FGM such as Malaysia and some parts of Indonesia. The Senior Vice President for Global Health confirmed that the College would look at these areas. It was noted that Malaysia is shortlisted for the 2026/27 Congress and, if successful, this would be an

area of focus. In addition, it was noted that, with regards to Gambia, the College had issued a strong statement on the website denouncing the proposed repeal of the ban on FGM and also lobbied MPs resulting in two questions being asked in Parliament.

The College has been awarded ECOSOC NGO Consultative status. Discussions around how best to utilise this status is being considered at Global Health Board and an update will be brought back to Council in due course.

Council noted that the College had received an increased number of abstracts for the World Congress in Muscat than at the same point in 2020 and 2022. The College has written to shortlisted countries for 2026/27 Congress and requested that written proposals are submitted. Council were encouraged to inform the events team if they are attending the Congress and to book their travel.

The College is exploring the possibility of hosting a Global Health Trainees Day in November 2024. It was suggested that an interim report on the events review would be brought to the next Council meeting.

Council noted the Report on Global Health Activities.

**14. Report from FSRH President**

The FSRH President presented their report on the activities of the Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare.

Council noted that an election process is underway for a new Vice President of Clinical Quality after Dr Helen Munro demitted.

The FSRH President discussed the Community Sexual and Reproductive Health training posts which have been confirmed across the UK for the 2024 intake. There were 17 positions with each having received significant interest. It was noted that the recruitment round was challenging, due to many Trusts not being able to contribute to the cost of a trainee.

With regards to post-pregnancy contraception, the FSRH President discussed the FSRH Post Birth Contraception Conference, which had been well received by attendees. The Postpartum Contraception Course was also highlighted. Feedback from the course was being gathered in order to inform future training with the aim of incorporating it into the matrix for O&G trainees.

Council noted the FSRH report.

**15. Report from Trainees' Committee Chair**

The National Trainees' Committee Chair presented their report detailing the recent activity of the Committee.

Council noted that a new Trainees Committee Vice Chair for Strategy, Dr Abigail Hyland, had been appointed and would be attending the next Council meeting.

It was mentioned that the winners for the 2024 Trainer and Trainee Trainer of the Year Awards had been announced. There had been significant interest in the awards and the winners had been well received.

The National Trainees Conference is taking place in May. The Trainees' Committee Chair commented on the strength of the programme.

The next National Trainees Committee meeting is taking place on 28 June 2024. This will be the second in-person meeting of the Committee held in 2024.

Council noted the report from the Trainee's Committee Chair.

<p><b>16.</b></p>	<p><b>Report from SAS/LED Lead</b>  The SAS/LED Lead presented their report, which highlighted the breadth of work that the SAS/LED Committee had undertaken since the last meeting.</p> <p>Council noted that the first College approved Specialist appointment had been made in Wales, at Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board.</p> <p>A new representative, Dr Priti Wuppalati, for the North West region has been recruited to the SAS/LED Committee.</p> <p>The SAS/LED Lead highlighted the various RCOG activities which the Committee had contributed to including the Return to Work toolkit, Educational Supervisors’ toolkit and policy work on gynaecology waiting lists.</p> <p>The SAS/LED Lead provided Council with an update on how best SAS/LED doctors can be identified. It was noted that, where available, this information can be accessed through the RCOG Workforce Team and through the RCOG website where there is a page for SAS/LED representation across the country. A census will be carried out by the Vice President for Membership and Workforce in 2025 which will aim to identify the number of SAS/LED doctors working in the UK.</p> <p>Council noted the Report from the SAS/LED Lead.</p>
<p><b>17.</b></p>	<p><b>Report from Women’s Voices Lead</b>  The Women’s Voices Vice-Chair noted the written update on recent activities of the Network and Women’s Voices Panel.</p> <p>Council noted that Dr Sian Mitchell has been appointed as the new Women’s Network Trainee Representative.</p> <p>National Maternity Specialty Adviser, Dr Jasmine Leonce joined the Women’s Network meeting in March and discussed potential opportunities for the Network to collaborate with the maternity and neonatal programme.</p> <p>The Women’s Voice Chair met with Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists about the role of the Women’s Network and how PPI works at the RCOG.</p> <p>The Women’s Network will be hosting a webinar in May focusing on fertility. It will be hosted by the Women’s Voices Chair.</p> <p>The Women’s Voices Vice-Chair, Emma Crookes, is chairing a Lived Experience Group as part of the College’s work with the Centre for Sustainable Healthcare to reduce the environmental impact of maternity care. The first meeting of the group will take place on 16 May 2024.</p> <p>Council noted that many of the Women’s Network’s members are involved in the RCOG’s planned work on gynaecology waiting lists. It was requested that the College provides support for representatives to promote this work with their constituents and Council were advised to contact the College to arrange this.</p> <p>Council noted the report from the Women’s Voices Lead.</p>
<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>Board of Trustees Report</b>  The Chief Executive presented the Board of Trustees Report which provided an overview of the activities of the RCOG Board of Trustees meeting on 12 April 2024.</p> <p>Council noted the Board of Trustees report.</p>

19	<p><b>Disciplinary, Removals and Reinstatement Committee Report</b></p> <p>The Executive Director for Membership, Global and Governance presented the Disciplinary, Removals and Reinstatement Committee Report, which provided an update on the removals, reinstatements and sanctions conferred by the Committee.</p> <p>Council noted the Disciplinary, Removals and Reinstatement Committee Report.</p>
20	<p><b>CEO Report</b></p> <p>The Chief Executive presented the report on the latest activity across the College.</p> <p><b>Annual Members' Meeting</b></p> <p>Council was asked to note the date 1 November 2024, which had been provisionally agreed for the College's Annual Members' Meeting.</p> <p><b>Council elections</b></p> <p>Nominations closed on 15 April for the College's regional Council elections. It was confirmed that nominations were received from eligible candidates in each of the five regions. Elections, where required, will commence on 28 May.</p> <p><b>Decriminalisation of abortion</b></p> <p>The RCOG is supporting an amendment to the Criminal Justice Bill tabled by Diana Johnson MP, which would remove women accessing abortion from the criminal law in England and Wales.</p> <p><b>Risk Appetite Statement</b></p> <p>On 12 April, the Board of Trustees approved the College's updated risk appetite statement. The College intends to begin the process later this year to develop a College strategy for the next strategic period and the risk appetite statement will provide an important framework for this.</p> <p><b>RCOG Annual Dinner 2024</b></p> <p>Council was asked to note the date Friday 29 November 2024, which had been agreed for the College's Annual Dinner.</p> <p>Council noted the CEO's report.</p>
21	<p><b>Lindsey Stewart Trustees</b></p>
21.1	<p><b>Legacy of Dr Alexander Lindsay Stewart FRCOG</b></p> <p>George Borthwick, Lindsay Stewart Trustee, joined the meeting to present the paper on the Legacy of Dr Alexander Lindsay Stewart FRCOG who had been a significant donor to the College over the previous 12 years.</p> <p>Council noted the report on the Legacy of Dr Alexander Lindsay Stewart FRCOG and thanked George Borthwick for joining the meeting.</p>
22	<p><b>Council Membership</b></p>
22.1	<p><b>Committee and Honorary Appointments and Extensions</b></p> <p>The 55 new appointments and 28 extensions were ratified.</p>
22.2	<p><b>Council representatives on Boards and Committees</b></p> <p>Council approved the appointment of Fatima Husain FRCOG &amp; Andrew Leather FRCOG as Council Representatives on the RCOG Business Development &amp; Commercial Group.</p> <p>Expressions of interest for the Members' Representative positions on the RCOG Finance and General Purposes Committee and RCOG Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committee were requested.</p> <p>Council members were advised to contact Natasha Sullivan to confirm their interest in either role.</p>
22.3	<p><b>Code of Conduct – Members and Representatives</b></p> <p>The Chief Executive presented the 2024 Code of Conduct – Members and Representatives. It was noted that the main amendments related to the application of the Code of Conduct.</p>

	Council recommended the Code of Conduct – Members and Representatives to the Board of Trustees for approval.
<b>23</b>	<p><b>Reports/minutes</b></p> <p>Council noted the following minutes:</p> <p>23.1 Membership Board 29 February 2024 minutes</p> <p>23.2 Clinical Quality Board 15 March 2024 minutes</p> <p>23.3 Education Board 18 January 2024 minutes</p> <p>23.4 Workforce Board 26 January 2024 minutes</p> <p>23.5 Academic Board 7 March 2024 minutes</p>
<b>24</b>	<p><b>Any other business</b></p> <p>The College’s banking arrangements with Barclays were raised in relation to environmental and ethical concerns. An in-depth review of this matter is being carried out to decide what actions the College will take in the future, with the need for a solution that can meet the College’s long-term needs, and Council will be updated in due course.</p>