



January to July 2017

Academy of Medical Royal Colleges Wales

Operational Report

— amrcw.org.uk/operational-report

8th August 2017

Introduction

This operational report updates from the areas of focus that were highlighted in our annual report, published in december 2016. They include:

- ❑ System Sustainability
- ❑ Retaining Professionalism
- ❑ Workforce Recruitment & Retention

We have reported against progress and identified future work, clarifying:

- ❑ What We Said
- ❑ What We've Delivered
- ❑ What We'll Deliver

Highlighting 'How We'll Deliver' through identified areas of a work plan for the remainder of the year.

Additionally, We highlight completed and ongoing projects undertaken by the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges in Wales (AMRCW).

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Chair's Message

This report demonstrates that the Academy in Wales is keen to ensure the voice of all doctors is heard in Wales and will influence the future nature and quality of healthcare provision in Wales. I am pleased to report work with the GMC, the BMA, the RCN and patients. This year has seen more input from junior doctors.

We have had constructive meetings with the Cabinet Secretary for health and the Chief Medical Officer.

Earlier this year we identified the primary/secondary care interface as an area to focus on and I am grateful to Jane Fenton-May (RCGP) for leading a piece of work looking at how professional behaviours may affect communication across the interface and we are now scoping some work round communicating discussion and decisions in advanced cancer.

We are working closely with Public Health Wales to kickstart and progress the Choosing Wisely movement in Wales, "making choices together". We have co-created material to encourage patients to take a greater part in deciding on appropriate interventions and will be working with cancer care teams to improve conversations in late stage cancer. We are grateful to the Cabinet Secretary and Public Health Wales for releasing funds for a further year to support the movement in Wales.

We are responding to more issues in Wales and are setting up new ways of communicating our messages. As we become more active it is important we operate as efficiently and effectively as possible. We are a small organization and it is not easy to provide timely responses. I am extremely grateful to our Operational Manager, Oliver John who has created our website, producing reports and statements and making links with other organisations. I am also delighted to welcome Abraham Theron (RCoA) as our first Hon Treasurer.

I attend the Council of the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges UK to ensure the Welsh voice is heard and to consider how UK work may affect Wales. At a UK level we have considered training, junior doctor morale, the likely impact of BREXIT and new initiatives / activity from GMC and others.

We have a workplan for the next five months of this year and beyond. If you have issues we should be considering I would be pleased to hear from you.



Paul Myres MMedSci FRCGP

Chair, Academy of Medical Royal Colleges Wales

communications update

Over the last 6 months we have sought to see an increased value to council, both in make-up and in influence of voice.

Engagement

We have sought regular contact with policy officers both in and outside of council meetings

Policy officers are invited to attend council alongside college representatives

College trainee representatives have been a welcome addition to council

We have looked to greater inform on our activity to members, stakeholders and general public

Stakeholders

GMC Wales are a welcome addition to council and likewise share a commitment with AMRCW to look at collaborative work on prospective future projects

BMA Wales remain a key stakeholder, committed to contribution at council and interested in collaborative future work

CHC and Public Health Wales have both committed to work in partnership on Choosing Wisely

Influence

We have presented to Cabinet Secretary as the AMRCW and aim to continue to give advice through consultation on a scheduled and regular basis

We have met with CMO, received update in presence at council with a view to regular scheduled consultations both in and out of council

We are committed to solidify our place within a medical advisory structure for Wales

Spreading the Message

Website

We have created a new dedicated web resource. Alongside a set of developed brand guidelines and messaging, this will give greater access to AMRCW resources, work progress and activity.

www.amrcw.org.uk

Newsletter

We have established a newsletter structure, supported by key analytics of delivery, 'click-throughs' and time spent on articles, with at least 2 monthly distribution planned.

Reporting

We have committed to produce an annual report as well as a midway operational report to update on progress and outline work plans going forward.

Additionally, We aim to increase our volume of comment on key developments within the sector to complement our increasing profile.

Project Work

We have developed a structure to undertake a greater volume of projects of value to our members, commissioning expertise to deliver projects in coordination with AMRCW.

We commissioned Dr Jane Fenton May to deliver our project into 'Professional Behaviour and Communications across the Primary & Secondary Care Interface', likewise we have sponsored an awareness campaign into End of Life Care with

RCGP. We see collaborative approach to delivery as an effective way to support and grow AMRCW output, profile and value to work undertaken.

Professional Opinion Articles

We have distributed and highlighted personal views of AMRCW members on healthcare in Wales through our professional opinion articles series

Social Media commitment

We have increased our presence on social media, this includes creation and distribution of content through new Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn & Google+ channels

Media commitment

We are committed to increase our media presence, and establish ourselves as a 'go-to' voice for news within the sector.

We have created media bio's for AMRCW media contributors (with a view to grow this number) and have planned to engage with media contacts throughout August / September to further this agenda.

project work last six months

a summary of our projects, completed or undertaken

Professional Perspective into the Parliamentary Review with Royal College Nursing

[March 2017](#)

We undertook a collaborative event with Royal College Nursing in Wales, aiming to provide a professional perspective to the Parliamentary Review of Health and Social Care in Wales. The event was aimed at doctors and nurses, likely to have a prolonged career trajectory within healthcare in Wales, and therefore, may be part of delivering the vision in the future.

Parliamentary Review into Health & Social Care

[May / August 2017](#)

We delivered verbal evidence to the parliamentary review of health and social care in Wales, recommending action to improve health and wellbeing for people across Wales, and reduce health inequalities. We produced [recommendations](#) for the review based upon :

- AMRCW Council discussion,
- NHS Confederation policy forum discussion,
- verbal evidence to the panel and from the
- Joint workshop with RCN Wales.

We will produce a response to the [interim report](#), released by the panel in July.

Professional Behaviours & Communication across the Primary & Secondary Care Interface

[July 2017](#)

■

We commissioned a project looking at challenges in the professional doctor to doctor communication. This involved extensive consultation with stakeholder groups, through direct consultation, focus groups and report feedback. The published report has identified challenges within the primary and secondary care interface both systemic and with a focus upon professional behaviours; additionally identifying principles upon which to improve effective communication and maintain good relationships.

Medical School Proposal for North Wales

[July 2017](#)

We produced a statement addressing recent considerations for a proposed medical school for North Wales. We also provided comment to GP Pulse on a subsequent announcement from WG Cab Sec that there was currently 'no case' for a medical school for North Wales but there should be a focus upon collaboration between medical schools and the North Wales region.

Gender Identity Services

[September 2017](#)

We are soon to release a Positional Statement on Gender Identity Services in Wales. This statement is anticipated to be released in September 2017.

Choosing Wisely Wales

[Ongoing](#)

Choosing Wisely is an international campaign designed to encourage clinicians and patients to engage in conversations about making wise treatment decisions.

We will be reporting in Dec 2017 on CWW, with a focus on interventions of Shared Decision Making upon Stage IV cancer. This project is delivered in partnership with CHC's in Wales and Public Health Wales.

Work Priorities

'What We Said' December 2016

our commitments made in our annual report

System Sustainability

We will submit verbal evidence to the Parliamentary commission into the future of the NHS and the implementation of Health Education Wales

Retaining Professionalism

We will ensure patient involvement in planning and shared decision making which links to Choosing Wisely Wales

Workforce Recruitment & Retention

We will look after junior doctors, which links to our recent position statement on strategy for training doctors in Wales



‘What We’ve Delivered’ last six months

System Sustainability

We have delivered verbal evidence to the parliamentary review into health & social care and subsequently published recommendations

We have secured WG investment into Choosing Wisely, we will undertake focussed work on shared decision making into the treatment of Stage 4 cancer

Choosing Wisely will be delivered in partnership with Public Health Wales and Community Health Councils in Wales

We gave position on the proposals for a third medical school in Wales

Retaining Professionalism

We released our report into professional attitudes and behaviours influencing the Primary and Secondary Care Interface

This has subsequently been distributed across GP networks across Wales, Royal Colleges have committed to distribute where appropriate including through NSAG

Workforce Recruitment & Retention

We brought a junior doctor represented voice to the parliamentary review into health & social care, This was undertaken in a joint workshop event with Royal College of Nursing

We brought junior doctor representation to our Council meetings

We ensured junior doctor representation on our consultations with WAG Cabinet Secretary & Chief Medical Officer

‘What We’ll Deliver’ July to December

System Sustainability

We will give response to parliamentary review into health & social care interim report

We will be giving position on anticipated impact and considerations of Brexit on medical colleges in Wales

We will be giving position on the proposals outlined in the WG White Paper, ‘Services Fit for the Future, Quality and Governance in Health and Care in Wales’

We will be submitting evidence to the Parliamentary commission into the future of the NHS and the implementation of Health Education Wales

Retaining Professionalism

We’ll extend our Primary & Secondary Care Interface work to inform juniors of associated principles, including at medical student induction

We’ll be undertaking an awareness campaign to encourage confidence for doctors to undertake conversations around End of Life Care

We will consider giving guidance and recommendation on clinical behaviours and professionalism

Workforce Recruitment & Retention

We will engage with junior doctors beyond council with a more robust media and communications approach, utilising our new web, social media and newsletter resources

We will be giving position on anticipated proposals for greater collaboration between med schools and North Wales

We will continue to seek further junior representation from more medical royal colleges at Council meetings

We will look to implement an approach to advise junior doctors on Shared Decision Making, Choosing Wisely and prudent healthcare

Work Plan

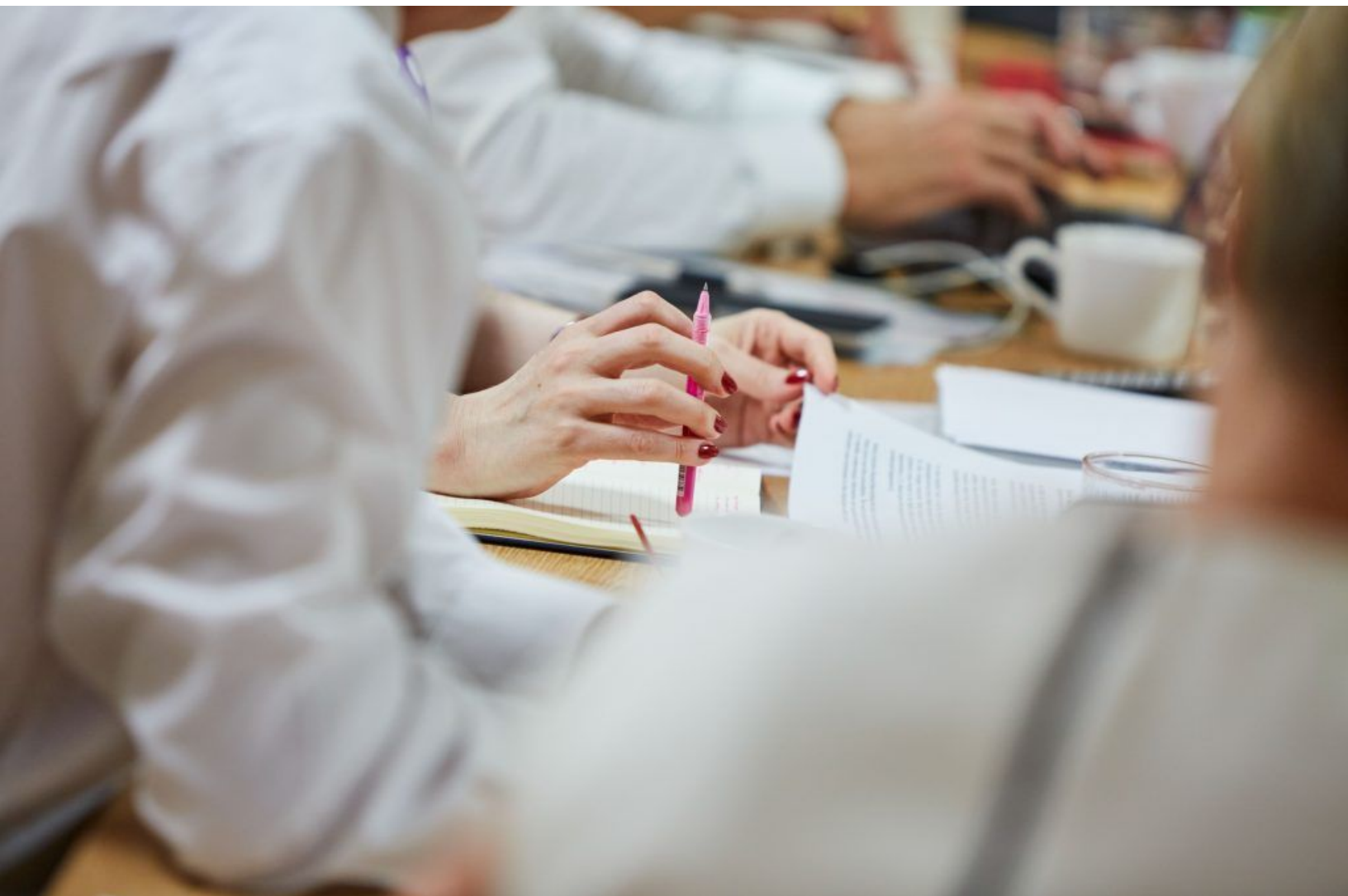
areas of focus

Primary & Secondary Care Interface	We are keen to further explore issues across the primary & secondary care Interface with stakeholders and believe the drawing together of principles of improved communication and behaviour set against identified barriers experienced across the interface in our recent report to be a solid foundation in which to start.
Medical Workforce and Training Strategy	We will continue to be responsive to the changing picture of medical training in Wales; our approach, evidenced in strategy, statement and trainee engagement throughout council activity. We will continue to work to ensure the trainee experience in Wales is positive and enables trainees to realise their potential.
Delivering Choosing Wisely in Wales	We will be reporting in Dec 2017 on CWW, with a focus on interventions of Shared Decision Making upon Stage IV cancer.
End of Life Care	In sponsorship of a collaborative project with RCGP, We will develop an awareness campaign to encourage doctors to feel confident in having conversations into end of life whilst signposting existing resources.
Brexit	Building upon the work of the AoMRC and Cavendish Coalition, We will develop a set Welsh position on Brexit with royal colleges, advising to government.
WG Medical Advisory Structure	We will seek position within the medical advisory structure offering a structured clinical advisory voice to Welsh Government.

reaffirming our commitments

In realising the objectives outlined in our work plan, we are reaffirming our commitments to our members

- ❑ A direct voice to government
- ❑ Multi-Speciality professional leadership
- ❑ Increased Influence through effective communication & profile



notable dates July to December

Proposed 3rd Medical School in Wales

Statement 17th July 2017

Professional Behaviours & Communications
across the Primary & Secondary Care Interface

Report 25th July 2017

AMRCW Operational Report

Report 8th August 2017

AMRCW Newsletter

Release September 2017

Gender Identity Services in Wales

Statement September 2017

Health & Social Care [Interim Report] Response

Statement September 2017

End of Life Care

Campaign TBC

**'Services Fit for the Future, Quality and
Governance in Health and Care in Wales' WG
White Paper Response**

Statement / Consultation TBC

**HIW and NHS Wales Deanery - Issues across
the Interface Response**

Consultation TBC

AMRCW Council Meetings Q3 / Q4

Meeting 8th Sep / TBC

AMRCW Annual Report

Report Dec

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