To be the independent voice promoting medical royal college standards through leadership and collaboration, to improve the health of the people of Wales
CHAIRS MESSAGE

I am delighted to review and highlight the work of the Academy in Wales over what has been a significant 12 months.

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. We continue to build upon strong relationships across the sector, I am pleased to report work with the GMC, the BMA, the RCN, patients as well as our member colleges. We have had constructive meetings with the Cabinet Secretary for health and the Chief Medical Officer.

This year has seen more input from junior doctors both in and out of council. I am ever encouraged by the enthusiasm of junior doctors who contribute to the Academy in Wales, and excited by project work that they have initiated for the year ahead.

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 have been responsive to the emerging picture of health and social care in Wales in responding to key consultations including the parliamentary review, the white paper ‘services fit for the future’ as well as assembly consultations into implications of Brexit on healthcare in Wales.

We are working closely with Public Health Wales to kick start 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 the team 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 to support the movement in Wales.
We are responding to more issues in Wales and are setting up new ways of communicating and presenting engaging 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 always easy to provide timely responses.

I am delighted to welcome Abraham Theron (RCoA) to our executive team, replacing Ms Sue Hill (RCS), for whom I’d like to thank for her significant contributions to the Academy in Wales over several years.

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, the benefits of physical activity, new initiatives / activity from the GMC and others and how we can respond to winter pressures among many other issues.

We have an evolving workplan for the next 12 months that reflects our ability to provide multi-specialty professional leadership in Wales. We want to work with and represent all specialties and we will be seeking to expand our membership over the next few months.

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**Dr Paul Myres**  
**MMedSci FRCGP**  
**Chair**  
**Academy of Medical Royal Colleges Wales**
**COMMS UPDATE**

**Engagement**

We have achieved more regular contact with policy officers both in and outside of council meetings.

Policy officers have attended council alongside college representatives.

College trainee representatives have been a welcome addition to council; also advocating at Cabinet Secretary consultations and leading on associated project work.

We have contributed to significant sector media stories and created further media relationships.

We have greater informed on our activity to members, stakeholders and general public.

**Stakeholders**

The GMC Wales are a welcome addition to council and we attend the Wales GMC National Advisory Forum.

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 #MakingChoices Together.

**Influence**

We have had two face to face meetings with the Cabinet Secretary for Health and keep him informed of our activity.

We continue to regularly engage with the CMO. Either he or the Deputy CMO attends our quarterly Council meetings.

We have had conversations with the interim chair of Health Education and Improvement Wales.

We respond to key consultations.

‘Over the last twelve months we have sought to see an increased value to council, both in make-up and in influence of voice’
We have created a new dedicated web resource giving greater access to AMRCW resources, work progress and activity.

We have just begun distributing newsletters of AMRCW activity.

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

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

We have increased our presence on social media, this includes creation and distribution of content through Twitter.

We are committed to increase our media presence.

SPREADING THE MESSAGE
We have presence on a number of important forum and groups, to influence key discussions around health care in Wales.

Additionally, we represent our member colleges and faculties in Wales on the UK Academy of Medical Royal Colleges executive committee.

NHS Primary Care Reference Group
AoMRC Genomics Champion Group
Welsh Revalidation Delivery Board
Welsh Medical Committee
Choosing Wisely International Symposium
AoMRC New Care Models Programme
GMC UK Advisory Forum
HIW Patient Discharge Group
NHS Delivery Unit Transfer of Care Group
## GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION

Highlighted topics of discussion from our consultations with Cabinet Secretary for Health, Sport & Social Care

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<th>6 Monthly Topics</th>
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THE ACADEMY COMMITMENTS
collective, independent, medical voice

multi speciality professional leadership

direct voice to government
This review updates from the areas of focus that were highlighted in our 2016 annual report and 2017 operational report.

**AREAS OF WORK**

- System Sustainability
- Retaining Professionalism
- Recruitment & Retention

**HIGHLIGHTING**

- What We Said
- What We Delivered
- What We’ll Deliver
WHAT WE SAID 12 MONTHS AGO

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

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

achieved, and we've done more

What We Said
Professional Perspective into the Parliamentary Review with Royal College Nursing

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.

- system sustainability

Parliamentary Review into Health & Social Care

We delivered verbal evidence to the review panel and produced recommendations for the review.

- system sustainability

Professional Behaviours & Communication across the Primary & Secondary Care Interface

We delivered a report looking into challenges in the professional doctor to doctor communication across the primary & secondary care interface.

- retaining professionalism

Medical School Proposal for North Wales

We produced a position statement addressing this proposal as well as applying context to the challenges faced in medical recruitment and retention in Wales.

- recruitment & retention

Responding to Individuals with Gender Identity Issues

We gave statement with respect to the doctor’s role in helping individuals with gender identity issues in Wales.

- system sustainability

Choosing Wisely #MakingChoicesTogether

We continued to deliver #MakingChoicesTogether encouraging clinicians and patients to engage in conversations about making wise treatment decisions.

- retaining professionalism
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<tr>
<td><strong>Brexit and the implications for healthcare in Wales</strong></td>
<td>We gave response on the resilience and preparedness of the Welsh Government’s administrative and financial response to Brexit.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Services fit for the Future</strong></td>
<td>We gave response to the Welsh Government White Paper consultation ‘Services fit for the Future’.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Minimum Unit Pricing of Alcohol</strong></td>
<td>We gave statement to the Welsh Government proposal for a minimum unit price of alcohol.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Regulation of Medical Associate Professions</strong></td>
<td>We gave response to the UK Government Department of Health consultation on the regulation of medical associate professions.</td>
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What We Delivered
**Primay and Secondary Care Interface**

We will extend upon our initial work and look at system challenges across the primary and secondary care interface.

- system sustainability

**Medical Workforce**

We will seek to ensure that the college voice and that of trainee doctors is represented regarding the implementation of HEIW.

- recruitment & retention

**End of Life Care**

We will review and look to improve communication around end of life care, ensure patients receive appropriate factual information about their health and prognosis.

- retaining professionalism

**Brexit and the Implications for Healthcare in Wales**

We will continue to be responsive to the existing and emerging challenges of Brexit, representing the college voice wherever possible.

- system sustainability

**WG Medical Advisory Structure**

We will continue our regular engagement with Cabinet Secretary and CMO. We have outlined our desire to provide independent guidance to WG as part of a medical advisory structure.

- system sustainability

**Choosing Wisely #MakingChoicesTogether**

We will report upon progress of #MakingChoicesTogether and will seek continued support to extend work of the programme.

- retaining professionalism
We will report upon the factors affecting the decisions faced by trainees throughout the trainee experience in Wales.

We will give statement on the medical motive in addressing Obesity.

recruitment & retention

system sustainability

What We’ll Deliver
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