

MEETING OF COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 7 February 2018 Council Chamber, The Royal College of Anaesthetists

Members attending:

Dr Liam Brennan, President	Dr Jeremy Langton
Dr Janice Fazackerley, Vice President	Professor J Robert Sneyd
Dr Simon Fletcher	Dr Anna Batchelor
Professor Michael Mythen	Dr John Colvin
Dr William Harrop-Griffiths	Dr Nigel Penfold
Professor Jaideep J Pandit	Dr John-Paul Lomas
Dr Kirstin May	Dr Darrel Lowry
Professor Michael Grocott	Dr Paul Clyburn
Dr Krishna Ramachandran	Dr Barry Miller
Dr Fiona Donald	Dr Carl Waldmann
Professor Ellen O'Sullivan	Mr Robert Thompson
Dr Lucy Williams	Dr David Selwyn
Dr Jenny Cheung	Dr Marie Nixon

In attendance: Dr Sarah Harries; Dr Chris Seavell; Mr Tom Grinyer; Ms Sharon Drake; Ms Kathryn Stillman; Mr Russell Ampofo; Mr Mark Blaney; Ms Sarah Thomas (secretariat).

Apologies for absence: Professor Ravi Mahajan (Vice President); Dr Russell Perkins; Dr David Bogod; Dr Abrie Theron; Professor Judith Hall OBE

REGIONAL ADVISORS IN ANAESTHESIA (RAA) INDUCTION

The President welcomed Dr Sarah Harries, RAA for Wales and Dr Chris Seavell, RAA for South West Peninsula to Council and invited them to provide a brief update from their region.

Dr Harries reported that specialist trainee recruitment in Wales is successful due to a combination of proactive engagement with careers fairs; shadowing and the introduction of a third year of core training, although it does experience issues due to the large travelling distances between hospitals. Services will also be reconfigured when Health Education Wales takes over the Wales Deanery shortly. 20% of the workforce is currently non-consultant, non-trainee grade with a higher proportion of doctors from the EU than in England. There are currently no ACSA accredited hospitals in the region as limited funding has been put towards developing anaesthetic services although Health Improvement Wales have endorsed ACSA as part of their inspection framework. The President advised that he and the CEO are looking forward to meeting Vaughan Gething AM, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Services for Wales at the end of February 2018 which is anticipated to be a productive meeting.

Dr Seavell reported that, as South West Peninsula is a relatively small region geographically, it experiences its own issues around recognition. Otherwise, the region generates positive exam results; has an excellent research profile and achieves successful ST recruitment. Furthermore, two hospitals in the region are ACSA accredited. The region has experienced some issues in engaging with the new junior doctors' contract and ensuring that consultant and SAS grades are released from Trusts to undertake national duties.

COUNCIL IN DISCUSSION

CID/58/2018 President's Opening Statement

- a. Professor Andrew Morris has been appointed to the role of Director of Health Data Research UK (HDR UK), the new UK health and biomedical informatics research institute. He will be invited to speak to the NIAA Board shortly.
- b. Dr Philip Bolton, Dr Jonathan McGhie and Dr Stephen Cole were recently elected to the three consultant posts on the RCoA Board for Wales. Dr Alastair Hurry was elected to the vacant trainee post. Elector turnout was 44.2% in the consultant election and 34.6% in the trainee election.
- c. Candidates were elected unopposed for all but one of the newly established Welsh Health Boards. Election in the Health Board where there were two candidates is currently in progress. Results will be announced at the end of February.
- d. The President announced the death of Dr Tamarai Parasuraman. Council stood in memory.
- e. The President thanked College staff including the President's Office, Facilities and Catering teams for their work in delivering a successful President's Dinner. Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Jeremy Hunt, provided a positive keynote speech and reported that he enjoyed the evening. The President thanked Council for their engagement on the night for which excellent feedback was received from many of our guests.
- f. The President was privileged to lead the memorial for immediate Past President Dr JP Van Besouw at St George's Hospital which was attended by over 250 guests. The celebration was a fitting way to honour JP and the President offered thanks to his family, colleagues at St. George's and College staff for their work in coordinating the event. JP's family also offered thanks to Council for their support during his illness.
- g. The Boards and Committee membership matrix was circulated to Council for comment and the President reported that there were no significant changes proposed. The matrix was approved as a final version.
- h. When the governance restructure work comes to an end in June 2018, the programme of external speakers at Council will resume. The President's Office and Communications team will establish a database of past and potential future speakers and invitations will be approached in a more strategic way moving forward. Council are asked to submit ideas for potential speakers to the President's Office.
Action: Council to submit ideas for Council speakers to Sarah Thomas, President's Office
- i. Council are reminded to contact the President's Office to secure a time for their Council appraisal, in particular those members who joined Council within the last year.
Action: Council to contact President's Office to schedule Council appraisal
- j. Following a presentation to Council by Dr Anil Patel, President of the Difficult Airway Society, the feasibility of developing College registries of anaesthetic related serious incidents was discussed. A paper will be brought to the Clinical Quality and Research (CQR) Board meeting in March and then to Council.
- k. The College has released its initial response to the High Court decision regarding the case of Dr Bawa-Garba and will now await the AoMRC's more detailed statement. The issue will be debated at today's AoMRC Council where Professor Ravi Mahajan is representing the President. Prof Mahajan will emphasise the College position that Medical Royal Colleges should speak with one voice in response to this difficult topic for the medical profession and should take the lead from the AoMRC. The case has raised a number of issues including the role of the GMC in appealing decisions; striking a balance between individual error and systemic failings; appropriate clinical supervision and recording of reflective practice. The government has announced Professor Sir Norman Williams will lead a review into the case with a report anticipated by the end of April 2018. AoMRC Officers, including the President, have also been called to an urgent meeting with GMC Chief Executive, Charlie Massey to discuss issues arising from the case. Dr Clyburn reported that the AAGBI is in agreement with the RCoA position that a joined up approach should be taken to responding to this case. Dr Lomas stressed the importance of recognising the anxiety caused by this ruling and advised that the Trainee Committee will coordinate a response on behalf of UK anaesthesia trainees. The committee will also review guidance on reflection in light of the ruling.
- l. The government has announced the launch of an investigation into opioid addiction. The President highlighted the importance of College involvement in these discussions as a specialty which is responsible for prescribing opioids for many of our patients.

CID/59/2018 Chief Executive's Report

Mr Grinyer and the Senior Management Team (SMT) presented an update on the work of the directorates in relation to the College strategy. They drew Council's attention to the following:

- 1.1 Positive feedback was received from Privy Council regarding revisions to Charter and Ordinances. A final version has been discussed by Trustees and approved.
- 2.1 Events Force has been selected as supplier for the College's new registration system. Ways of using the system within the Examinations Department will also be explored.
 - 2.1.1 The College are hosting an AoMRC led pan-specialty SAS conference on 23 April 2018. 37 delegates are currently registered to attend.
 - 2.2.4 Work has begun with the GMC on a series of Curriculum Advisory Group meetings looking at the curriculum approvals process, to be led by Claudia Moran.
 - 2.2.5 The first newsletter for our international membership was launched recently
- 3.1.1 There are now 18 ACSA accredited sites.
- 3.1.2 The public consultation on the rewrites of five GPAS chapters closes on 5 February 2018.
- 3.2.5 The topic selection process for NAP7 will close on 9 February 2018.
- 3.3 An excellent two-day Perioperative Medicine meeting was held recently and attended by 50 leads.
- 4.1.2 The initial scoping for the new College website has now been completed and a procurement document will be issued in February or March 2018.
 - 4.1.1 The Communications department have arranged for the [NHS England twitter](#) to be curated by an anaesthetist between 5 and 9 March 2018, providing an excellent opportunity to raise the profile of the specialty.

Action: President's Office to circulate link to the twitter account to Council members when the curation period begins
 - 4.2.2 The College's profile amongst politicians and policy makers continues to improve in both England and the devolved nations due to ongoing work within the Policy and Public Affairs Department. Meetings have taken place with Dr Phillipa Whitford, SNP spokesperson for Health and Keir Starmer MP, Shadow Minister for Brexit. Meetings are also planned with key contacts from NHS England and NHS Improvement in the coming months.
 - 5.1.1 The surplus at month six is reported to be £897k which is an improved position on recent months.
 - 5.1.2 The Investment Committee met for the first time in January 2018. The committee benefited from financial guidance received from the lay professional who attended the meeting, particularly during the question and answer session with the investment company. The presence of a lay trustee will continue to strengthen the work of the committee on an ongoing basis.
 - 5.2.2 Formal interviews with the shortlisted catering suppliers will take place towards the end of February.
 - 5.3.1 An Employee Assistance Programme was launched throughout the College in January 2018 to offer support to staff.
- 6.2 Build of the ePortfolio and logbook portions of the Lifelong Learning Platform is on track to be completed at the end of February 2018. Two months of user acceptance testing will then be carried across the College and by trainees and trainers. A national training day for portfolio leads will take place on 8 May 2018.
- 6.5 The governance workstream of the TSP project has now ended having introduced an IT helpdesk which will allow IT tasks and their effectiveness to be assessed. The TSP Board will continue to provide regular updates to Council.

CID/60/2018 RCoA 25th Anniversary Programme legacy activities

Council considered the Impact and Evaluation report which recommends activities to be taken forward and their associated costs. Council noted that a number of activities align with objectives set out in the Education Strategy discussed by Trustees. Council approved the recommendations included in the report. Council will monitor progress to ensure continuing relevance.

- **Motion resolved:** Council approved the recommendations.

The President's offered thanks to Dr Langton for his work in leading the RCoA's successful 25th Anniversary programme.

CID/61/2018 Update from MAP Oversight Board

Dr Penfold provided a verbal update from the MAP Oversight Board which met on 16 January 2018.

The Board received an update from Professor Peter Kopelmann, Chair on responses to the DH consultation on statutory regulation of MAPs for which over 3000 responses were received. All parties are generally supportive of statutory regulation with the GMC as the preferred regulator. However, NHS Improvement has indicated some concerns regarding overlap with the advanced clinical practice (ACP) nursing role, particularly in relation to the practice of ACCPs, many of which come from a nursing background. The Board also received an update about PA workforce funding.

The Board will meet again when the outcome of the consultation is released, currently scheduled for April 2018.

CID/62/2018 Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland (AAGBI) President's Report

Council considered the AAGBI report provided by Dr Paul Clyburn.

Dr Clyburn offered thanks to Dr Ravi Mahajan for representing the RCoA at the 30th Anniversary Winter Scientific Meeting which took place on 10th to 12th January 2018.

Progress of the SAFE initiative continues with the most recent course, SAFE Operating Theatre, securing a THET grant to pilot Ethiopia. Fundraising for SAFE Africa is on course with £30k raised since its launch.

The timetable for AAGBI elections has now been announced. Nominations will close on 6 May 2018.

The AAGBI Guidelines Working Parties continue their work on a variety of guidelines. The AAGBI Board agreed to establish two new working parties which will consider guidelines for return to work and anaphylaxis.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

CB/154/2018 Council Minutes

Council received the minutes of the previous meeting held on 13 December 2017.

- **Motion resolved:** Council approved the minutes of the meeting held on 13 December 2017.

CB/155/2018 Matters Arising

Review of Action Points

Council noted the progress report on actions arising from the last meeting.

The President thanked Council for their comments on the NHS England review of paediatric critical care and specialised surgery. The President has written to the NHS England Director to formally raise concerns around the implementation plan circulated. An update will be provided to a future Council meeting.

CB/156/2018 Regional Advisers

Council considered making the following appointment:

Dr John Dyer, Regional Adviser for Stoke-on-Trent

- **Motion resolved:** Council approved the appointment of Dr John Dyer to the post of Regional Adviser for Stoke-on-Trent.

CB/157/2018 Deputy Regional Advisers

Council considered making the following appointment:

Dr P Bathke, Deputy Regional Adviser for St Georges'

- **Motion resolved:** Council approved the appointment of Dr P Bathke to the post of Deputy Regional Adviser for St Georges'.

CB/158/2018 College Tutors

Council considered making the following appointments and re-appointments (re-appointments marked with an asterisk):

Wales

*Dr O McIntyre (Morrison Hospital)

Scotland

West of Scotland

Dr T McGrattan (Queen Elizabeth University Hospital).

KSS

Dr A Chalmers (Queen Victoria Hospital).

London

North Central London

*Dr P Harris (Harefield Hospital)

North West

Mersey

Dr A Arch (Arrowe Park Hospital).

North West

Dr S Mills (Blackpool Victoria Hospital).

Wessex

Dr M Wakatsuki (University Hospitals Southampton).

West Midlands

Stoke

*Dr S Agarwal (New Cross Hospital)

- **Motion resolved:** Council approved the appointments and re-appointments as listed above.

CB/159/2018 Head of Schools

Council considered making the following appointments:

Dr T Simpson Head of School for Severn.

Dr R M Burnstein, Head of School for East of England.

- **Motion resolved:** Council approved the appointments as listed above.

CB/160/2018 Training Committee

i. Chair of the Training Committee's Update

Dr Penfold provided a report from the Training Committee, advising that members will attend GMC workshops to discuss curriculum submissions. They will also meet with ACCS leads shortly. Dr Penfold has also been invited to join the AoMRC advisory group looking at flexibility of postgraduate medical training.

The President offered thanks to Dr Penfold for leading the Training Committee during his tenure

ii. Certificate of Completion of Training

Council noted the recommendations made to the GMC for approval, that CCTs/CESR (CP)s be awarded to those who have satisfactorily completed the full period of higher specialist training in anaesthesia. The doctors whose names are marked with an asterisk have been recommended for Joint CCTs/CESR (CP)s in Anaesthesia and Intensive Care Medicine.

East of England

Dr Jian Wen Chan Dual ICM*

North Central London

Dr Manohasandra Majuran Joint ICM

Dr Tammy Ng

South East

Dr Pele Banugo

Dr Marwa Salman

Northern

Dr Gordon Boyle

Dr Christopher Johnson Dual ICM

Dr Laura Jones

Dr Thomas Poulton Joint ICM

Wessex

Dr Rebecca Reeves

North West

Mersey

Dr Hilary Wallace

North West

Dr Zoe Apple

Dr David Chambers

Dr Andrew Martin Dual ICM

Dr Christian Salbaticu Dual ICM

Dr Victoria Scott-Warren

Dr Henry Wang

Oxford

Dr Claire Ansley-Watson

West Midlands

Dr Catherine Snaitth Joint ICM

CB/161/2018 Equivalence Committee

Dr Ramachandran presented the notes of the virtual meeting held on 10 January 2018. The Equivalence Committee considered one application which generated a lot of discussion.

Dr Ramachandran reported that there is ongoing discussion around tests of knowledge for equivalence applications. A review will be carried out jointly with the GMC of the test of knowledge currently considered equivalent to the FRCA

The committee received and discussed a helpful response from the GMC regarding the 5-year rule for consideration of evidence for equivalence applications.

CB/162/2018 Education Committee

Professor Grocott presented the minutes of the meeting held on 13 December 2017.

The Education Committee agreed to review the speaker expenses policy. The committee also highlighted the importance of promoting diversity amongst speakers and agreed that a specific KPI in this area will be formulated.

The committee discussed RCoA recognition of higher education qualifications offered by external providers. Council noted that in order to give endorsement to a qualification, the College would need to be involved in the generation of its content. Council agreed that the College should avoid aligning itself with any specific qualification in this way.

CB/163/2018 Examinations Committee – motion to Council

Council agreed that Dr Fiona Donald should be appointed to the post of Chair of the Final FRCA.

- **Motion resolved:** Council approved the appointment of Fiona Donald to the position of Chair of the Final FRCA examination from 1 August 2018.

CB/164/2018 Safe Anaesthesia Liaison Group

Professor Pandit presented the minutes of the meeting held on 19 October 2017 and the working group held on 5 January 2018.

SALG is engaged in an ongoing discussion regarding the practise of using IV lidocaine for chronic and acute pain relief. The group notes that there is currently a lack of national guidelines to dictate how IV lidocaine is used. Professor Pandit requested comments from Council on this issue.

Action: Council to submit comments regarding guidelines for us of IV lidocaine to Professor Pandit

Professor Pandit also presented the notes of the SALG Working Group on 5 January 2018. The working group was established with the purpose of working more closely with the AAGBI and the first meeting included discussion around direction of travel; progress to date and writing an MOU to set out working arrangements. The MOU will be shared with Council once finalised.

Council also considered the SALG endorsement policy which clarifies the process for considering requests to support publications and other resources developed by external organisations. Council agreed to endorse the policy as tabled.

The minutes of the SALG innovation meeting, held jointly with HSRC, were also presented. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss how both groups could support and promote innovation. A strategy relating to innovation will be developed and presented to Council at a future meeting.

CB/165/2018 Lay Committee

Mr Thompson presented the minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2017.

Mr Thompson reported there are a number of vacancies on the Lay Committee, including a representative for Northern Ireland and a representative to support the ACSA programme. The success of ACSA is creating further demands on the Lay Committee; therefore it is keen to attract more members to support this work. The Lay Committee will work with the Communications team to advertise these posts and to ensure the process is open and transparent.

The President thanked Mr Thompson for his work as Chair of the Lay Committee during his tenure, in particular leading on the recent governance review.

CB/166/2018 National Institute of Academic Anaesthesia Board

Professor Mythen presented the minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2018.

Professor Mythen reported that the board agreed to support the British Ophthalmic Anaesthesia Society's request to advertise their research funding.

The board agreed that applications for the John Snow Anaesthesia Intercalated Awards could now be accepted from intercalating medical students at any stage of their research project, providing it commenced during the current academic year. It is hoped this will increase the range of students eligible for the awards. Professor Mythen invited Council to discuss any queries relating to the awards with him.

CB/167/2018 Audit and Internal Affairs Committee

Council considered the revised terms of reference for the committee. Dr Batchelor advised that the only amendment was to increase the quorum from three to four Council members.

The committee carried out a review of the recent Council elections where the vast majority of participants voted electronically. Of the postal votes specifically requested, only a small number of votes were submitted. Council agreed therefore to moving to a full electronic ballot for future elections.

A short life working party will be convened to review the College's membership disciplinary procedures.

The committee reviewed our fraud protocols to ensure they are in line with Charity Commission guidelines and the committee approved a revised procedure

The committee reviewed the Risk Register and no changes were made to risk levels. Trustees will continue to review the register on an ongoing basis.

- **Motion approved:** Council approved the revised Terms of Reference for the Audit and Internal Affairs Committee.
- **Motion approved:** Council approved moving to a full electronic ballot for future Council elections.
- **Motion approved:** Council approved closure of the Retired Fellows membership category offering the individuals within this category the option to transfer to the Senior Fellows Club

The President offered thanks to Dr Anna Batchelor for her work chairing the Audit and Internal Affairs Committee during her tenure.

CB/168/2018 Technology Strategy Programme (TSP) Committee

Dr Langton presented the minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2017.

Dr Langton reported that the committee agreed that some funds would be invested in mapping the Lifelong Learning Platform with FICM.

There has been ongoing discussion around offline functionality of the ePortfolio platform. The use of an app will be explored and discussed at a future meeting.

Work around infrastructure improvements continues with Skype for Business, including voicemail, now live across the College.

Spending against the TSP is currently on track. The ePortfolio is anticipated to go live in August 2018 as planned.

Professor Mythen stressed the importance of training in use of the platform being made available. With this in mind, a training video will be made available.

The President offered thanks to Dr Langton for his work in leading the TSP Committee during his tenure. He also offered thanks to Dr Lomas for his input into the work.

CB/169/2018 Royal College of Anaesthetists' Board for Scotland

Dr Ramsay presented the minutes of the meeting held on 21 November 2017.

The board received a presentation from Dr Neil Smart, Vice Chair of the Scottish Health Technologies Group. The board hopes to develop a liaison with the group moving forward.

A consent information group has been established, with clinical representation, looking at developing patient information documents for Scottish patients.

The board continues to engage with Health Improvement Scotland in adopting ACSA methodology in Scottish Quality of Care Reviews.

The board has developed a response to the CMO for Scotland's annual Realising Realistic Medicine report.

The board thanked the Scottish Clinical Leadership Fellow for their ongoing contribution.

The board has identified a number of barriers to Scotland taking part in quality improvement work and is currently exploring solutions.

Board members were pleased with interest in recent Board elections which attracted an excellent group of applicants and good voter turnout.

Dr Ramsay reported that Dr John Colvin and Dr Eddie Wilson will shortly step down from the board and thanked them for their contribution.

Dr Ramsay reported that the Board received a request for Board support in advocating for a reduction in the use of desflurane to reduce carbon emissions and deliver cost savings. The President advised that Tom Pierce, the RCoA's sustainability advisor, would be happy to correspond on this issue.

- **MATTERS FOR INFORMATION**

1/30/2018 Consultations

Council received a list of consultations which are currently in progress.

1/31/2018 New Associate Fellows, Members and Associate Members

Council noted the information which was circulated electronically.

- **PRESIDENT'S CLOSING STATEMENT**

PCS/11/2018

- a. NHS Improvement recently published a revised list of Never Events which includes an additional item around unrecognised oesophageal intubation associated with failure to use capnography. It was brought to NHS Improvement's attention that the wording does not reference systemic national barriers to use of capnography; therefore the event has been removed for the time being for further discussion.
- b. Dr Harrop-Griffiths represented the College at a Royal College of Surgeons led round table discussion on next steps post-Paterson. The DH has recently announced the launch of an independent enquiry following the conviction which may supersede this work. The College will continue to monitor the enquiry with interest. The President highlighted various aspects of what could be learned from the case such as duty of all who witness substandard or unsafe clinical practice to speak up as well as the importance of considering poor practice in the setting of MDTs.
- c. The Anniversary Dinner will take place on Monday 12 March at the Guildhall. The President asked Council to ensure that they have sent their RSVP to the President's Office by the deadline of 12 February 2018.
- d. The RCoA Diplomates' Day will take place on 4 May 2018. The President highlighted the importance of this event and asked Council to prioritise attendance.
- e. The inaugural RCoA Summer Reception will take place in July 2018, the evening before Council.

PCS/11/2018 Retiring Council Members

The President announced that the following Council members were in attendance at their final Council meeting:

Professor J Robert Sneyd

Dr Anna Batchelor

Dr Nigel Penfold

Dr Jeremy Langton

Dr John Colvin

Dr JP Lomas

The President thanked the Council members for their many years of hard work and commitment to the work of the College and wider specialty during their tenure.