

**Minutes of the Surgical Specialties Training Board meeting held at 10.30 am on  
Tuesday 17 October 2017 in Room 6, NHS Education for Scotland, 2 Central Quay,  
89 Hydepark Street, Glasgow (with videoconference links)**

**Present:** Graham Haddock (GH) Chair, John Anderson (JA), Dominique Byrne (DB), Russell Duncan (RD), Alan Kirk (AK), Craig McIlhenny (CM), Danny McQueen (DM), William Reid (WR), Satheesh Yalamarthy (SY).

**By videoconference:** *Dundee* – Vicky Hayter (VH), Jill Murray (JM), *Edinburgh* - Tracey Gillies (TG), Alastair Murray (AM), Rowan Parks (RP), Hamish Simpson (HS), Rachel Thomas (RT); *Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Glasgow* - Craig Wales (CW).

**Apologies:** Helen Biggins (HB), Geraldine Brennan (GB), John Butler (JB), Alistair Geraghty (AGe), Alison Graham (AG), Gareth Griffiths (GG), Adam Hill (AH), Mike Lavelle-Jones (MLJ), Graham Mackay (GM), Calan Mathieson (CMa), Amanda McCabe (AMcC), Jacqui McMillan (JM), Douglas Orr (DO), Andrew Renwick (ARe), Alasdair Robertson (ARo), Ken Stewart (KS), Jackie Sutherland (JS).

**In attendance (Edinburgh):** Helen McIntosh (HM).

**1. Welcome and apologies**

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and particularly Danny McQueen, attending his first meeting as lay representative to the STB. He noted that Rachel Thomas has demitted as SJDC representative to the STB and will be replaced in due course. Apologies were noted.

**2. Minutes of meeting held on 13 July 2017**

The minutes were accepted as a correct record of the meeting.

**3. Review of the action list/Matters arising**

**3.1 Urology – numbers information**

CMcI noted confirmation from John Colvin at Scottish Government and Derek Phillips, Regional Workforce Director, East Regional Planning Group of the ongoing Scotland wide review of Urology and suggested the STB consider this until the review reports. CMcI proposed an uplift to numbers; RP said the annual cycle for approving post numbers has now passed however it would be possible to submit a case in June/July 2018. Robust evidence was required for any submission. The STB agreed it was happy to support a submission subject to evidence base. GH and CMcI will work on this and the item will remain on the agenda.

**GH/CMcI  
Agenda**

**3.2 Mentoring update**

SY reported that all CST East trainees and a cohort of training mentors have been identified and will be matched. The same will be done for the West and he will discuss this with ARe.

**SY**

**3.3 Transplant training**

Lorna Marson will provide a document for the STB at a future date.

**LM**

**4. Scotland Deanery**

**4.1 Quality Management report**

JM highlighted:

- Plastic Surgery visit now likely in December.

- Recorded thanks to Surgery TPDs for 100% return of reports for QRP.
- Core training – 4 visits recommended; HST – 12 recommended. Dates to be determined.
- Paediatric Surgery will be added to the Quality Report and the link refreshed.
- Vicky Hayter appointed Surgery QIM and will attend future STB meetings.
- T & O in Wishaw General Hospital was still on enhanced monitoring and will be revisited in March 2018.
- General Surgery in GRI will go on enhanced monitoring.

JA felt it would be useful to receive SAC Liaison member reports and this would also provide externality. GH will explore this.

GH

GH attended the recent Core QRP and noted it was a comprehensive and impressive process.

## 4.2 **Improving Surgical Training**

### 4.2.1 **Minutes of the IST working group meeting on 6 September 2017**

### 4.2.2 **Meeting with the IST steering group on 26 September 2017**

### 4.2.3 **Meeting of the IST working group on 17 October 2017**

The prospectus was being finalised and recruitment will start at the beginning of November.

### 4.2.4 **Remote and rural options**

The QRP identified the 2 GS Core Surgery posts in Fort William and Stornoway as not providing good training opportunities proposed their reallocation to Raigmore Hospital. An expression of interest in taking a trainee has been received from Shetland which was applying for GMC recognition. If relocated the posts would have to be backfilled. The NHS Highland DME has noted concern about the model proposed. The IST group met earlier in the day and agreed that WR will contact Dr Annie Ingram, Regional Workforce Director for the North of Scotland, to discuss options.

WR

### 4.2.5 **Final rotations**

- *East:* 8 runthrough posts badged as General Surgery – the remainder were themed. There was a question mark over one post otherwise rotations were approved by the IST working group, although it had proposed 6 month slots rather than 12 months and this will be considered further. Noted no proposed rotations to Ninewells; SY reported there were some changes to on call in Perth and posts had been moved to Ninewells. There were 8 core trainees in Tayside and there was a strong possibility all receiving will be at Ninewells. He was in communication with the TPD.
- *West:* Forth Valley was not included in the calculations however the group was aware of this oversight. Forth Valley welcomed the opportunity to train more.

Some post approval forms were still to be received.

### 4.2.6 **Prospectus for recruitment**

Noted: rewording of section on page 5.

### 4.2.7 **Simulation training issues**

The paper has been adopted. There were 2 key actions from the meeting earlier in

the day – a meeting with Scottish Government to secure funding in which GH, WR, AK and GM will be involved; funding for 2 PAs for Scottish simulation lead. A single postholder was preferred however this was dependent on applications and 2 people could share the post.

#### 4.2.8 **Draft IST Newsletter No 2**

The group agreed WR's suggestion to ask Medical Directors to circulate the newsletter to Clinical Directors and this will be highlighted in the covering letter. It was also agreed to include a webinar, panel discussion and details of an evening symposium on 9 November in Forth Valley run by the Edinburgh College. The document will be rebadged and circulated. GH will ask Niall MacIntosh, Lead Business Partner in NES, if the newsletter can also be circulated to trainees. HM will send Niall MacIntosh's contact details to GH.

**GH**  
**HM**

#### 4.3 **Scotland Deanery News**

GH highlighted NES work on addressing Differential Attainment.

#### 4.4 **Gold Guide – new edition**

Key changes were noted. WR reported he is leading a Short Life Task and Finish Group looking at OOPE with the aim of introducing greater flexibility. The guide was in the final draft stage.

#### 4.5 **International Medical Training Fellowship Proposals**

The STB considered 7 applications:

- *OMFS – St John's Hospital*

The STB approved the application.

- *Vascular Surgery – Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh*

The STB approved the application; GH will seek DO's approval before final confirmation.

- *Transplant Surgery – Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh*

TG noted the application did not go via the local process but she had no objection. The STB approved the application.

- *Neurosurgery – Queen Elizabeth University Hospital*

AK noted a visit was scheduled to the unit and there were significant training issues. It was agreed AK will seek further information from CM after which a decision will be made by GH whether to approve/not approve the application.

- *Uro-oncology – Queen Elizabeth University Hospital*

The STB approved the application.

- *General Surgery – Royal Alexandra Hospital*

The STB approved the application subject to funding availability.

- *Neurosurgery – Ninewells Hospital*

WR will clarify whether this is a national programme. Subject to this information the STB approved the application.

The group noted a Pelvic Floor Fellowship in the East Scotland which was proposed

in 2014. JA will source the information and send it to GH.

JA

## 5. Recruitment

### 5.1 Specialties

- *Cardiothoracics*

The specialty has fully recruited.

- *OMFS*

Full recruitment and no need for recruitment in the next 2 rounds; runthrough post to be considered in 2 years' time.

- *T & O*

Interviews to be held on 21 and 22 February in Glasgow.

- *Urology*

Full recruitment and a Clinical Lecturer post advertised for August 2018.

- *General Surgery*

JA reported there were fewer appointables than training slots and the service has failed to recruit. This resulted in a number of vacancies in Scotland. There were issues with ST3 applicants from core year 2 not meeting the standards for ST3 and while it was hoped IST will enhance individual's portfolios and help to fill ST3 posts from core this was a current issue. There were plans to address this eg the portfolio station for ST3 will be put into the public domain so applicants will know what they are required to do. RP noted that England filled 90+% of ST3 posts while Scotland was one of the worst performing. However, they did not fill core posts a few years ago and this may have impacted on the situation. As there was now better core fill this could resolve the issue.

## 6. Specialty Issues

### 6.1 Training in Breast Surgery

There was concern that changes in the curriculum could result in trainees in the East of Scotland struggling to meet competencies and so greater flexibility in moving around the country was required. The 2013 General Surgery curriculum was modified in 2016 with very significant changes which are delivered in England by TIG posts. Funding for the TIG posts is held by the Wessex Deanery and Scottish trainees can apply for this and there were already some posts in Scotland. The STB agreed JA's proposal to facilitate a meeting with the 4 General Surgery TPDs and the Vascular TPD to discuss rotating trainees around Scotland next year once the new curriculum was ratified. A meeting in the first quarter of 2018 would be arranged for interested parties. Meantime if a trainee wanted more experience this should be sought via OOPE not OOPT and as this had a financial impact in terms of backfill and expenses the best use of training opportunities and post CCT Fellowships should be explored. This was the same situation as existed in Transplant Surgery.

GH

### 6.2 Letter from PRCSEd regarding bullying and undermining

The STB was asked to endorse the College's campaign. WR noted he was supportive of the campaign and introducing awareness however MDET would not want to be involved in running training courses as this was essentially a workplace rather than training issue and would not sign up to all the proposals. GH will draft

GH; RP

a response which he will ask RP and WR to check before sending.

**and WR**

### 6.3 **Statement of intent – General Paediatric Surgery**

RP noted this was a draft document and one of 3 documents addressing the same issue. These will be amalgamated into one based on this document and circulated under a 4 College badge. The final document will be issued within the next few weeks.

## 7. **Updates**

### 7.1.1 **Service**

TG noted the Regional Transformation Plan which should address service reconfiguration. The plan was not yet in the public domain.

### 7.2.2 **Specialties**

- *Urology* –Paediatrics was likely to be issue again re 80 half day requirement.

### 7.2.3 **Academic**

No update was received.

### 7.2.4 **MDET**

GN noted his attendance at the MDET Away Day in Dunkeld to discuss the GMC visit.

### 7.2.5 **Colleges**

Noted: hosting International Conference in Training in Edinburgh in 2018.

### 7.2.6 **Simulation**

AK reported the JCST Simulation Group has been disbanded. He will speak to the College President in Scotland about the role of the Simulation Collaborative and its future.

### 7.2.7 **Trainees**

No update was received.

### 7.2.8 **JCST**

The most recent meeting took place on 11 October where appointments were made and noted.

### 7.2.9 **CoPSS**

The next meeting will take place in November.

### 7.2.10 **SCCCSS**

No update was received.

## 8. **AOCB**

### 8.1 **HST starting date**

London had changed its dates which had made trainees coming from there to Scotland ineligible to take up post. WR noted COPMeD was taking forward the issue.

### 8.2 **Scottish Medical Education Conference 26/27 April 2018 at EICC**

Noted.

9. **Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will take place at 10.30 am on Tuesday 13 February 2018 in Room 5, Westport (with videoconference links).

**Actions arising from the Surgery STB meeting held on Tuesday 17 October 2017**

Item no	Item name	Action	Who
3. 3.1	Matters arising Urology – numbers information	To work on producing evidence for additional numbers for submission next year; to keep on agenda.	GH/CMcl Agenda
3.2	Mentoring update	To discuss provision for CST in West with ARE.	SY
3.3	Transplant training	To report at a future meeting.	LM
4. 4.1	Scotland Deanery Quality Management Report	To ask SAC to share SAC Liaison members reports.	GH
4.2.4	Remote and rural options	To speak to Annie Ingram re Inverness site.	WR
4.2.8	Draft IST newsletter No 2	To explore circulating newsletter to trainees via Niall MacIntosh; to send GH contact details.	GH HM
4.5	International medical training fellowship proposals	To seek further information from DO on Vascular Surgery post at RIE; to seek further information on Neurology post at QEUH; to seek clarification on funding availability for General Surgery post at RAH; to seek information about Neurosurgery post at Ninewells and confirm with GH. To send information on Pelvic Floor post approved in 2014 to GH.	GH AK  GH  WR  JA
6.1	Training in Breast Surgery	To facilitate meeting with 4 General Surgery TPDs and Vascular Surgery TPD next year once new curriculum is ratified.	GH
6.2	Letter from PRCSEd re bullying and undermining	To draft response to letter; to check draft response before sending.	GH; RP and WR