

Health and Care Professions Council – Thursday 7 February 2013

Reports from Council representatives at external meetings

Executive Summary and Recommendations

Introduction

The following feedback has been received from Council Members reporting back from meetings at which they represented the HCPC:

- Welsh NHS Confederation conference, dinner and exhibition – Arun Midha
- Department of Health/National Audit Office Audit Chairs Seminar – Jeff Lucas

Decision

The Council is requested to note the reports.

Background information

None

Resource implications

None

Financial implications

The cost for attendance at conferences/meetings has been incorporated into the Council annual budget.

Background papers

None

Appendices

Copies of feedback forms

Date of paper

30 January 2013

Name of Council Member	Arun Midha
Title of event	Welsh NHS Confederation Annual conference, dinner and exhibition 2012
Date of event	5th and 6th December 2012
Approximate attendance at event	250 +
Issues of Relevance to HPC <p>The Welsh NHS Confederation conference and exhibition 2012 provided an excellent opportunity for the NHS in Wales and its partners to explore how services will develop over the coming four years within a background of financial, social and demographic challenges. Key note speakers included, Lesley Griffiths, Minister for Health and Social Services, Mike Farrar, NHS Confederation Chief Executive, Ruth Hussey, recently appointed CMO for Wales and David Sissling, Chief Executive of the NHS in Wales. The theme of assuring quality was prominent throughout. There was an excellent session on: 'Accreditation and Regulation - the way forward for management in NHS Wales' and the issue of professional regulation in the NHS led by Bob Hudson, CEO of Public Health Wales and Chair of the Welsh Division of the Institute of Health Services Management. This session pre-dominantly looked at the question of professional accreditation for managers in the NHS and the pros and cons of a move to a more formal system of regulation.</p> <p>A particularly good workshop I attended was one on: 'assuring quality - preparing for Francis'. This was led by one of the Chairs of the Local Health Boards in Wales with the Older People's commissioner and Chief Inspector of Health Inspectorate Wales on the panel. The debate was a lively affair and focused on the forthcoming Francis Report on Mid Staff's. It focussed on the potential repercussions of the report and how Wales can assure itself of the quality of care in the NHS in Wales. In particular the discussion attempted to identify priorities for quality, how this might be measured (there is not a systematic approach currently) and, what quality means to citizens and patients.</p> <p>I was able to meet a number of organisations and individuals in the conference 'fringe' including Public Health Wales where an interesting discussion was had on possibilities for regulation of public health professionals and 'Participation Cymru' an organisation focused on developing effective public engagement strategies in Wales.</p>	
Key Decisions Taken	

Name of Council Member	Jeff Lucas
Title of event	DH Audit Chairs Seminar/ NAO
Date of event	27th Nov 2012
Approximate attendance at event	40
<p>Issues of Relevance to HPC</p> <p>HCPC was invited to this seminar hosted by the NAO and led by Una O'Brien the Permanent Secretary at DH and the new Accounting Officer for the Health Family.</p> <p>DH has a newly defined common purpose called CLOS (Clear Line of Sight) which is targeted at all divisions of the DH and their ALBs and hopefully to the extended family of Independent Regulators. CLOS in accounting terms requires all of the core family to produce:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial Statements pre-recess. (done) 2. Consolidated returns to timetable. (done) 3. Improve communication channels with DH. (could do better) 4. Improve Governance Statements. (make short and punchy) <p>The target audience is DH Core, NHSLA, NICE, SHAs, PCTs, NHS Trusts, CQC, Monitor, HEE and the new NHS Commissioning Board.</p> <p>NMC, HCPC, GDC, PSA and MHRA are being invited to comply with CLOS and consider new internal audit practices.</p> <p>At present there are 5,500 Internal Audit days across the core family and we were invited to consider the merits of a 'group' approach to Internal Audit using a Shared Service and the concept of 'group assurance'. This is part of the Governments Transformation Project which also seeks to move towards Group Procurement, Standardised KPIs, Sharing Good Practice and 'Churn' which is a way of moving Non-Execs round the family. For the core organisations the message was comply or explain, for the extended family there was little enthusiasm for a Shared Internal Audit Service, but some willingness to attend future meetings, share good practice and Churn.</p>	
<p>Key Decisions Taken</p> <p>See above.</p>	