

To consider

2010 Schedule of Meetings

Issue

1. The dates of Council, Board, committee and reference group meetings in 2010.

Recommendation

2. To agree the 2010 schedule of meetings (paragraphs 8-12 and Annex A).

Further information

3. If you require further information about this paper, please contact us by email: gmc@gmc-uk.org or tel. 0161 923 6602

Background

4. Key Aim 10 of the 2009 Business Plan states that we will take steps to enhance our economy, efficiency and effectiveness. In delivering this aim, and in advance of development of the Business Plan, we prepare an annual meeting schedule that enables Council, Boards, Committees and Reference Groups to deliver their programmes of work.
5. Each of the boards, committees and reference groups has met and discussed its work programmes and working methods.
6. Work on Council's corporate strategy is under way and this will inform the annual business planning process for 2010 in the last quarter of 2009. This, in turn, will enable the development of Council's work programme for 2010. In the light of this, and of the proposed review of the governance framework in 2010, the number and frequency of meetings scheduled may need to be adjusted. However, producing a forward schedule provides for effective diary planning as well as for good management of GMC resources.
7. We circulated the proposed schedule of meetings to members on 6 August 2009 and have sought to accommodate any comments received.

Discussion

Council

8. The draft schedule of Council meetings is at Annex A. We propose that there should be seven Council meetings in 2010. The dates could be utilised for a mixture of formal business meetings, seminars and workshops
9. The dates of the Council meetings in February 2010 and March 2010 are aligned to the current legislative timetable for the section 60 Order that will give effect to the merger of PMETB with the GMC, and secondary legislation that will flow from the section 60 Order. There is a possibility that the schedule will need to be altered.
10. In accordance with established practice, most Council meetings in 2010 are scheduled to take place in London. We plan to hold one meeting in Manchester once the office move to new premises is complete, and one in Belfast, following our established pattern of meeting once a year outside England.

Boards, committees and reference groups

11. The draft schedule of board, committee and reference group meetings, and meetings of the Joint Co-ordination Group, UK Revalidation Programme Board, and GMC and Academy of Medical Royal Colleges Group is included with the Council meetings dates in Annex A. Where possible, we have sought to allow sufficient time between those meetings and Council meetings, to enable them to influence Council papers where appropriate. This has not always proved possible.

12. As usual, it will be open to chairs and convenors to propose alternative dates, in consultation with other members, and to decide, as the work programmes develop, whether there is a need to hold all of the proposed meetings scheduled

Recommendation: To agree the 2010 schedule of meetings.

Resource implications

13. None arising from this paper.

Equality

14. We have taken into account dates of school holiday periods and major religious festivals. We have avoided scheduling meetings in early January, August, and late December 2010. However, due to the number of dates required and the fact that half term and summer term holidays vary between schools and different regions, and in each of the four countries, we have not been able to completely avoid these periods. For the most part we have also succeeded in avoiding scheduling meetings on the dates of religious festivals.