

Agenda item:	M6
Report title:	Taking Revalidation Forward – progress update
Report by:	Judith Chrystie , Assistant Director, Registration and Revalidation Judith.Chrystie@gmc-uk.org , 0207 189 5459
Action:	To consider

Executive summary

The external action plan for Taking Revalidation Forward was published on the GMC website on 20 July 2017.

The action plan is organised into six work streams and includes 18 specific commitments from the GMC together with a similar number of actions to be undertaken by external stakeholders. All GMC actions are scheduled to be complete by June 2018.

In addition to addressing the recommendations from Sir Keith Pearson's review of revalidation, the plan includes improvements designed to address issues arising from the Paterson case.

The plan is monitored by the Revalidation Oversight Group (ROG). ROG is chaired by the GMC's Chief Executive and includes members who represent key revalidation stakeholders across the four countries.

Work is underway and is on track for all published GMC commitments. We will publish our first formal progress update following the December 2017 meeting of ROG.

Recommendations

Council is asked to consider:

- a** The progress update on Taking Revalidation Forward as outlined in this report.
- b** Our [action plan for the Taking Revalidation Forward Programme](#).

Taking Revalidation Forward Action Plan

- 1 Following the publication of Sir Keith Pearson's review of revalidation, *Taking Revalidation Forward* in January 2017 and his recommendations to improve some aspects of revalidation, we published our [action plan for the Taking Revalidation Forward Programme](#) on 20 July 2017. The plan is the result of detailed internal planning and engagement with external stakeholders.
- 2 Six work streams have been set out in the action plan to encompass the fifteen recommendations from Sir Keith Pearson's report:
 1. Making revalidation more accessible to patients and the public.
 2. Reducing burdens and improving the appraisal experience for doctors.
 3. Strengthening assurance where doctors work in multiple locations.
 4. Reducing the number of doctors without a connection.
 5. Tracking the impact of revalidation.
 6. Supporting improved local governance.
- 3 There are a total of 37 actions in the plan – 18 from the GMC and 19 from other organisations – organised into the six work streams. All members of the Revalidation Oversight Group (ROG), which is chaired by the GMC's Chief Executive with members who represent key revalidation stakeholders across the four countries, have endorsed the plan and it has been welcomed by Sir Keith Pearson as providing a firm basis for progress.
- 4 As well as addressing Sir Keith's recommendations, the action plan tackles some issues arising from the Ian Paterson case, in particular the need to improve information sharing between the NHS and private hospitals.
- 5 The launch of the action plan was well covered in the trade press, including the BMJ, Pulse and GP Online. An accompanying blog has been viewed over 8000 times, making it the most widely read revalidation content ever released by the GMC. Although many of the comments posted in response to the blog were negative, these tended to be critical of revalidation itself (and related processes and systems, or lack of them), rather than the action plan. Other comments recognised the efforts the GMC is making to improve the process.

Key progress to date

- 6 The majority of the GMC actions are scheduled to be delivered by March 2018, with the final outputs completing by June 2018.
- 7 Work is underway against all GMC commitments. As at September 2017, we have:

- a** Drafted additional case studies to help doctors collect and reflect upon patient feedback and will publish these in the autumn.
- b** Started to engage with patient organisations to help develop a straightforward and accessible public narrative around how revalidation works.
- c** Begun work to redesign our revalidation webpages to make it easier for doctors, patients and responsible officers to find the advice they need.
- d** Held internal and external workshops to begin developing ideas for how to track the ongoing impact of revalidation.
- e** Provided the Department of Health with a list of suggested changes to the Responsible Officer Regulations, with a view to strengthening governance arrangements for locums and doctors without a prescribed connection.

Arrangements for monitoring and reporting progress

- 8** Progress of GMC actions is overseen by an internal, cross-directorate Programme Board.
- 9** Delivery of the action plan is monitored and coordinated by the ROG which includes representation from all key revalidation stakeholders across the four countries of the UK. ROG meets quarterly with its next meeting on 13 September 2017. An oral update will be provided to Council on 28 September 2017 on the key aspects of this meeting.
- 10** The GMC will publish and promote formal progress updates every six months. The first update will appear in December 2017 or January 2018.