22 July 2014

Strategy and Policy Board

To consider


Issue

1 The State of medical education and practice (SoMEP) 2014 Report publication and signoff schedule.

Recommendations

2 The Strategy and Policy Board is asked to:

   a Note the sign-off and publication process and schedule for the SoMEP 2014 Report.

   b Consider the SoMEP 2014 Report draft at Annex A (to be tabled at the meeting).
This year’s State of medical education and practice Report (SoMEP) will be published in September 2014 (date TBC), and final amendments to content must be in place no later than 8 August to allow sufficient time for proof reading, printing, and layout. The process is overseen by an editorial group with representation from all parts of the GMC, chaired by the Chief Executive.

The Report will contain 4 substantive chapters. Content builds on previous feedback and topics raised by internal and external stakeholders.

- Chapter 1 “The Almanac” is a small library of register, fitness to practise (FTP), and revalidation data.
- Chapter 2 “Increasing complaints and cohorts of doctors at higher risk” investigating different groups of doctors and trusts, and their propensity to have fitness to practise complaints or other issues.
- Chapter 3 “Education” explores the variation measured across medical schools and universities.
- Chapter 4 “Contemporary issues facing the profession” will build on qualitative data from our liaison services to explore some issues that are being raised to the GMC.

A draft of the substantive chapters of the Report will be tabled for consideration at the Board meeting, and members will be invited to provide feedback.

In the weeks to this point, Assistant Directors and Directors have had an opportunity to review individual chapters relating to their directorates’ interests. This feedback will be incorporated into the draft Report.

In the week beginning 4 August 2014, the report will be sent to the Chair of Council and the Chief Executive for a final read-through and sign-off. Some relevant content may be used by the Chief Executive in the course of the International Association of Medical Regulatory Authorities (IAMRA) conference being held from 9-12 September 2014. The conference also includes a breakout session led by the Assistant Director – Strategy and Communication on the thinking and process behind SoMEP as a product. The report itself will not be published until after IAMRA (exact date TBC).

The timeline of key milestones in SoMEP 2014 publication is:

- 29 May 2014: Editorial Group Meeting.
16 June to 30 June 2014: Early drafts of sections for internal review, tone of voice editing begins.

1 July 2014: Seminar with clinical fellows reviewing content.


22 July 2014: Strategy and Policy Board meeting (discussion of draft of substantive chapters).

28 July 2014: Final proofreading and production begins.

4 August 2014: Final report sent to the Chair of Council and the Chief Executive for final read-through.

W/C 22 August 2014: Sent to print.

September 2014 (date TBC): published.
Supporting information

How this issue relates to the corporate strategy and business plan

9 Strategic aim 1: To make the best use of intelligence about doctors and the healthcare environment to ensure good standards and identify risks to patients. This is by providing, leading and initiating discussion of relevant data that we hold through the publication of the SoMEP report.

What engagement approach has been used to inform the work (and what further communication and engagement is needed)

10 There has been discussion with Directors, the Strategy and Policy Board, and Editorial Board to drive out which broad issues to address within the report, and to help develop the right tone and approach for the content.

11 Assistant Directors have been consulted at key points in the drafting process to check, challenge and input into the content of chapters as they are drafted.

12 Data teams within each directorate that provided data have been consulted and involved in creating and interpreting the data, helping to ensure the right level of interpretive notes are used, and that data is used appropriately.

13 The MPTS have been engaged to discuss issues to address in an analysis of panel cases looking at conduct and performance, and they have input into and checked the conclusions, figures, and content in that section.

What equality and diversity considerations relate to this issue

14 Issues and information relating to ethnicity and other protected characteristics may be described within the report. Where addressed these will be handled with appropriate input from the Equality and Diversity team and from those inputting into the drafting process.

If you have any questions about this paper please contact: David Darton, Head of Intelligence and Insight, ddarton@gmc-uk.org, 0207 189 5142.