Report title: Report from the Revalidation Advisory Board

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Considered by: Revalidation Advisory Board

Action: To note

Executive summary
This paper reports on the latest discussions at the Revalidation Advisory Board noting, in particular, issues considered at the meeting held on 1 September 2015.

Recommendation
The Strategy and Policy Board is asked to note the report of the 1 September 2015 meeting of the Revalidation Advisory Board.
1 September 2015

At its meeting on the 1 September 2015 the Revalidation Advisory Board (RAB) provided advice in relation to the specific areas of work detailed below.

GMC Progress report

RAB considered a report on the progress made with implementing revalidation and the latest revalidation data.

RAB advised that:

a Identification of unresolved issues that are contributing to deferral rates is important, in order to help address them. The GMC should explore if further information could be obtained about deferrals.

b Further clarity on the processes following a non-engagement recommendation, would be beneficial to Responsible Officers.

c Further detail on a selection of anonymised appeal decisions should be included for consideration at a future session.

d The future session considering the results of the UMbRELLA survey should include input from both the PPI Forum and the Research Liaison Group.

The Chair indicated an interest in attending upcoming meetings of the groups supporting the evaluation if possible.

Communications update

RAB received an oral update on revalidation communications generally and the need for messages to public and patient representatives to be clear, simple and positive with a focus on the partnership between patients and doctors.

RAB advised that:

a A discussion of patient and colleague feedback, and what this might look like in the future, should be scheduled for a future meeting.

b A further update on how communication and engagement issues are progressing would be useful in a future session.

Revalidation Assessment

RAB received an update on the GMC’s plans to introduce an assessment in early 2016 to support the revalidation of doctors without connections to a Responsible Officer (RO) or Suitable Person.
8 RAB advised that the GMC might consider exploring the potential for legislative change in relation to:

a Allowing the grant and maintenance of the licence to practise to be based on need, and

b Amending the Medical Profession (Responsible Officer) Regulations (the RO regulations) so that all doctors who need a licence to practise in the UK have a connection to a designated body.

Regional Liaison Service Update

9 RAB received an oral update on feedback that Regional Liaison Advisers receive about revalidation from doctors and patient groups.

10 RAB advised that:

a It would be useful to further formalise our engagement with Healthwatch. In particular it might be helpful to meet with them directly to discuss revalidation.

b Feedback from those we have engaged with is valuable, and that RAB are keen to continue to receive this.

UK Progress Updates

11 Representatives from Scotland and England provided verbal updates. Scotland’s feedback focussed on Healthcare Improvement Scotland’s 2014/15 revalidation report which will be going to the Scottish Revalidation Delivery Board in October 2015 and some aspirational standards which have been introduced for revalidation in Scotland.

12 NHS England’s report on the implementation of RO Regulations and medical revalidation sets out the results of the annual audit and for the first time will include vignettes on the benefits of appraisal to clinical services. An internal audit of NHS England’s compliance with the regulations was undertaken by Deloitte.

13 RAB advised that it would be helpful to see the recommendations made by Deloitte to NHS England.

14 The next meeting of RAB will take place on 8 December 2015.