

KSS Trainee Engagement Forum Minutes

15th December 2022, 12.30 – 13.30

Chair: Charlotte Wyeth (CWy)

Dean: Jo Szram (JS)

Notetaker: Harvey Booker (HB)

Attendees from KSS:

Jo Szram (JS), Jon Nodding (JN), Angela Fletcher (AF), Vanessa Davis (VD), Debbie Robertson (DR), Sarah Rafferty (SR), Christopher Warwick, Charlotte Porter (CP), Harvey Booker (HB - notetaker)

Items

12:30-13:00 Trainees only

The following points/questions were raised by trainees:

- A question was raised about how to obtain a reference for a rental property for a trainee who is relocating to a different trust. CWy advised that there is a difference between a general reference, which can be written by anybody you know, and evidence of income. For evidence of income/employment contract you will need to contact the HR/Medical staffing team of the trust you are moving to.
- CWy had received a question from Paediatrics trainees about Regional Training Days. Was there a minimum number required from the school? Paeds trainees had taken to arranging some RTDs themselves. To be raised with deanery.
- Question from a Higher Trainee in Psychiatry about timing of ARCP dates. The dates seem to get earlier each year, which makes it difficult to use the benefits of the last part of the placement for feedback. To be raised with deanery.
- A Foundation rep advised that trainees had complained about last-minute rotation changes being made on the grounds of patient safety and then reversed at the last minute, also on the grounds of patient safety (QEQM, Margate). To be raised with deanery.
- Does the deanery have a webpage that trainees could feed back to about their experiences at a particular location or specialty, so it could be shared with other trainees. CWy advised that Obstetrics and Gynaecology had its own Facebook page which could be used for this. There was also the HEE NETS survey which gave trainees an opportunity to feed back.

13:00-13:30 Deanery team joins meeting

CWy led on the queries discussed in the first 30 minutes which needed deanery advice:

- CWy had received a question from Paediatrics trainees about Regional Training Days. Was there a minimum number required from the school? Paeds trainees had taken to arranging RTDs themselves. AF confirmed that schools should be organising the RTDs, so we need to take this up with the Head of School. JS - We are not aware of a minimum required number, as each School carries out CPD differently, but looking at what other deaneries do (by specialty) would be useful, as they have established trainee forums. CWy will contact her counterparts in other deaneries.

- Question from a Higher Trainee in Psychiatry about ARCP dates. The dates seem to get earlier each year; this makes it difficult to use the benefits of the last part of the placement for feedback. ARCPs are for looking back to review progress up to that point; however, JS agrees that having them too early is not helpful. Please email CWy if this is an issue for your specialty, it would be useful to know how school-specific this issue is.
- Foundation trainees had raised an issue about rotation changes being made at short notice on patient safety & supervision grounds, and then sometimes reversed at the last minute, again on patient safety grounds (December placement, Geriatrics at QEQM Margate). Jan Welch will look into this and get back to CWy.*
*Update 19th Dec 2022: JW advises that this has now been explored with the trust. The situation is as outlined at this forum. The trust is finding it difficult to appoint Care of Elderly consultants, which impacts on supervision. The Foundation training lead there, Miss Elizabeth Sharp, has met Foundation doctors to explain the background to the situation. She and colleagues will monitor the situation closely to ensure adequate supervision is in place, and will let us know of any developments. Prof Jo Szram, KSS Postgraduate Dean, has suggested setting up a focus group of the doctors concerned early next year.

About the Forum

- JS – The forum is evolving; we are trying to achieve a representative attendance by including a good spread of trainee reps who can represent their trainees' issues and ask questions on their behalf.
- An email has been sent recently asking for a co-chair to assist CWy; if you are interested, please follow the instructions in the email.
- A reminder of the link to the TEF webpage with contact details and other information:
<https://kss.hee.nhs.uk/resources-information/trainee-engagement-forum/>

Next meeting: TBA