

For information

UK Healthcare Education Advisory Committee Annual report

Agenda: 14
HEFCW/17/40

Disclosable

18/05/2017

1 Issue

- 1.1 This paper provides the 2016 annual report of the UK Healthcare Education Advisory Committee (UKHEAC) as reported to the HEFCE Board, together with additional information about the context in Wales.

2 Corporate Planning Implications / Rationale for paper

- 2.1 HEFCW provides some funding support for medical, dental and other healthcare provision. UKHEAC has responsibility for advising the UK funding bodies on healthcare education matters. HEFCW nominates members to the Committee and has officer observer representation to ensure a continued input to UK-wide perspectives on these areas including on work-force planning.

3 Recommendation

- 3.1 The Council is invited to:
- i. note the annual report of UKHEAC for 2016;
 - ii. note the additional information on Wales;

4 Timing for decisions

- 4.1 There are no timing implications for this paper.

5 Council members' interests

- 5.1 Council member Dr Arun Midha has been a member of UKHEAC from April 2016.

6 Further information

- 6.1 Contact Dr Cliona O'Neill (029 2085 9731; cliona.oneill@hefcw.ac.uk).

7 UKHEAC Annual report 2016

- 7.1 The annual report of the UKHEAC presented to HEFCE Board at its meeting in March 2017, is attached at **Annex A**. This includes information about the terms of reference and membership of the Committee and planned activity for 2017.
- 7.2 In 2016 the Council was represented on UKHEAC by Dr Arun Midha from April 2016. The HE sector in Wales was represented by Professor Keith Lloyd, Dean and Head of the medical school at Swansea University, from 1 June 2015. He stood down in April 2017. The Deputy Chief Medical Officer for Wales is an observer to the Committee, together with a HEFCW officer.
- 7.3 The report largely covers the context in England. Some additional information related to Wales is summarised below. The next meeting of the Committee will take place in Cardiff on 9 June 2017 and will include a presentation from the Chief Medical Office for Wales. The Committee normally meets in London but meets in Cardiff and Edinburgh on a biennial basis.
- 7.4 *The publication of the Diamond Review of HE funding and student finance in Wales:* It was confirmed that new fees and funding arrangements would apply in Wales from 2018/19. The proposals should mean that in future years there is additional funding available to support expensive subjects such as medicine and dentistry.
- 7.5 *Widening access:* HEFCW was continuing to participate in discussions with Welsh Government and providers of medical education regarding how the Selecting for Excellence agenda might be taken forward. This had resulted in a pilot project in summer 2016, which provided work experience placements with GPs for widening access students.
- 7.6 *Health Education Wales:* Welsh Government has confirmed its intention to establish a new body to oversee strategic workforce planning, workforce design and education commissioning for NHS Wales. This would be an arm's length body with a board accountable to Welsh Ministers, working within an overall framework provided by the Welsh Government. The proposed working title for this new body is Health Education Wales (HEW). The body is expected to be operational from 1 April 2018.
- 7.7 *The application and implications of the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) for Wales:* Welsh Government agreed that Welsh institutions could participate in the TEF should they wish. It is proposed that ultimately the TEF will be generated at subject level, which may impact on recruitment to healthcare subjects at different institutions.
- 7.8 *Review of medical student allocations in Wales.* The publication of the Chief Medical Officer's annual report 'Rebalancing Healthcare: Working in Partnership to Reduce Social Inequity' (Frank Atherton and Chris Jones) was noted. There was a short discussion about the low numbers of Welsh residents studying medicine, which has prompted a call for an increase in the medical student allocation in Wales.
- 7.9 *Funding for healthcare provision:* In England, from 1 August 2017, new nursing, midwifery and most allied health students will no longer receive NHS bursaries. Instead, they will have access to the same student loans system as other students. This applies to new students on pre-registration courses (those which lead to registration with one of the health professional regulators). Arrangements for nursing and allied health professionals are devolved in Wales. It was confirmed that those starting their training in September 2017, who choose to study an eligible

health related programme in Wales, will be able to access bursaries, provided they commit in advance to taking up the opportunity to work in Wales, post qualification, for a period of two years.

8 Financial implications

- 8.1 In 2016 HEFCW contributed £902 towards the activities of UKHEAC.
- 8.2 In 2016/17 HEFCW allocated ca £13.0m teaching funding for medical and dental provision. We also allocated ca £3.3m teaching funding for part-time medicine and subjects allied to medicine.

9 Communications implications

- 9.1 The report has been published on the HEFCE website, which also includes the minutes of the Committee.

10 Diversity and Equal Opportunities implications

- 10.1 This paper has no direct implications for age, disability, marital/civil partnership, maternity/pregnancy, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, any other protected characteristic, Welsh Language or sustainability.

11 Risk Assessment

- 11.1 Details of identified risks arising from the issues are provided below:

Risk	Action to address risk
The Council lacks a capacity to engage with UK developments in medical, dental and other healthcare provision at UK level.	Engagement by HEFCW and Welsh sector in UKHEAC.