

24 October 2012

Expert Advisory Group



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**SHAPE OF TRAINING**

## **Overview of discussion papers**

1. The three discussion papers for this meeting have been developed to stimulate debate and discussion about the issues in postgraduate medical education and training faced by three different groups of stakeholders. They have been developed primarily through desk-based research. Their aim is to help the Expert Advisory Group think about how different stakeholders have different and at times conflicting needs and requirements from postgraduate training and how reforms to the training structure may impact on these groups:

- a. Item 3 looks at the challenges with the current structure of postgraduate training for employers, particularly in relation to workforce planning and meeting changing patient and service needs. It then considers ways that training can be changed to produce doctors that meet employers' needs by developing a more flexible medical workforce
- b. Item 4 looks at some of the concerns raised by trainees about the way training is delivered and how training could be changed to address these concerns. For example, service that is delivered by more trained doctors would free up trainees to spend more time on learning and reflecting on that learning.
- c. Item 5 looks at the qualities that patients value in doctors and how these could be ingrained into postgraduate training. In particular, patients want more clarity and support when dealing with the interface between primary and secondary care. A training programme focused on developing more doctors who can provide high quality care across this junction could help meet patients' needs better.

2. The possible options and suggestions raised in each paper are by no means the only options or even the right options. They are meant to help start the debate on the different ways training could be changed. We would welcome any comments or feedback from the Expert Advisory Group on these approaches or any other aspects on which we should reflect.

3. Any way forward will be developed, considered and tested through the review's formal evidence gathering processes. We will be seeking feedback through a number of activities including a written call for evidence and oral evidence session.

We have also developed seminars, workshops and site visits targeting particular stakeholder groups and individuals. We would also like to encourage the Expert Advisory Group to explore the issues and questions on the shape of training with their own contacts. We welcome any other ideas on how to further engage with stakeholders.