

July Board meeting Wednesday, 17 July 2024



Chair's Report

- 1.1 Our Board last met on 15 May 2024 in London. I am very much looking forward to our Board meeting in Wales/Cymru on 17 July 2024. We need to leave time for translating all Board papers, so I am writing this report earlier than usual and will update you on any additional activities at the meeting.
- 1.2 Alan and I have continued our programme of meeting the chairs and chief executives of the statutory regulators, meeting with the GOsC on 20 May 2024 and the GMC on 29 May 2024. I have also had discussions with Christine Elliot of the HCPC. Alan and I also met with Baroness Dianne Hayter on 3 June 2024. Further updates on these meetings will be given in the stakeholder part of the agenda. I also observed a S29 review on 31 May 2024.
- 1.3 On 10 July 2024, I attended the Brand Refresh workshop along with around 15 members of staff. The session was well facilitated and focussed on honing our core messages. The next steps are to turn this into a work programme.
- 1.4 I continue to meet with staff including all new joiners, which is a pleasure. I have also attended Public Chairs' Forum (PCF) events and I have now completed leading sessions for the last of three training days organised by the PCF for newly appointed chairs.
- 1.5 The Nominations Committee is continuing to have regular meetings to ensure that the upcoming four recruitment processes (a replacement for Nick and Board Members for NI and Scotland and slightly later, Cymru/Wales) that we have scheduled over the next 6 months run smoothly. On 21 June 2024, Marcus, Moi, Julie Dent (the independent panel member) and I met to shortlist candidates for Nick's previous role. We had over 60 applications. We have shortlisted five candidates from a range of backgrounds. Interviews will take place on 5 July 2024.
- 1.6 At the last Board meeting we discussed term lengths for Board members. The Nominations Committee has had a further discussion and is recommending that we move to three-year terms and renewals from now. Assuming board members serve two full terms, it would look like below. Nick's 'clock' started again with the ARC chair appointment and his appointment letter specifies an initial term of four years. To ensure consistency, Nick has kindly agreed that he should get a two-year extension after his first term as ARC chair. This would also reduce bunching in 2031.

2024 Associate in April, ARC Chair in July, new board member in September
2025 NI and Scottish members in Jan. Chair reappointment in March.
Welsh/Cymru member in May. Appoint Dep Chair.
2026 Associate member (replacing Ruth) in April
2027 -
2028 New Chair in Feb, Associate in April
2029 New board member (replacing Juliet) in December
2030 Associate in April, new ARC Chair (replacing Nick) in July
2031 NI and Scottish members in Jan. Welsh/Cymru member in May
2032 Associate in April.

- 1.7 I will shortly be contacting Board members about the panels for the interviews for the Scottish, NI and Welsh/Cymru NED campaigns. I will be on each of the panels along with someone nominated by each of the respective DAs. If Board members are available, I think that there would be value in having the current DA Board members being on their respective country's interview panel. This is partly to reduce cost/travel but also to take advantage of networks and knowledge of local issues. We will also have an independent member on each panel.
- 1.8 I am holding the regular six-monthly Chairs' Roundtable on 9 July 2024. Topics will include: an update from each Chair on key priorities; what the election result might mean for professional regulation; the PSA's upcoming review of the 18 Standards of Good Regulation (last updated in January 2020); the possible impact on regulators of the proposed changes to the NHS Constitution for England (where patients will be empowered to request that intimate care is carried out by someone of the same biological sex, where reasonably possible) and best practice on gender information on registers; and optimal Board/Council term lengths.
- 1.9 Finally, this will be Frances' last Board meeting. Frances has been a fantastic Chair of ARC and a wide-ranging contributor to the PSA Board. I have very much enjoyed working with Frances over the last three years and I am sure that I speak for the whole Board when I say that Frances will be greatly missed. During our time in Wales/Cymru, we will have an opportunity to properly thank Frances in person.
- 1.10 I look forward to seeing everyone on 16 and 17 July 2024 in Cardiff.

Caroline Corby
24 June 2024