

Quality Governance Collaborative



ROYAL  
COLLEGE *of*  
PHYSICIANS *of*  
EDINBURGH

# Excellence in Governance – A Programme for Chairs and Senior Directors

## 2021

## About the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh

The Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh is a professional membership organisation which sets clinical standards and aims to improve and maintain the quality of health and patient care. We do this by improving accessibility to the profession, developing collaborative partnerships, encouraging innovation and delivering outstanding education, training, quality improvement, and assessment opportunities.

Founded in 1681, we support and educate doctors in the hospital sector throughout Scotland, the UK and around the world with over 13,000 Fellows and Members in over 90 countries, covering 54 medical specialties and interests. We enable a worldwide community of physicians and their teams to advance the health of our global population for the long-term benefit of society.

## About the Quality Governance Collaborative

The QGC is an independent, neutral, non-governmental body committed to developing a new, integrated approach to quality governance in healthcare. We bring together multi-professional groups as part of national and international collaborations with the aim of highlighting issues and improving the practice of quality governance, particularly but not exclusively, in healthcare.

The QGC works closely with, and advises, governments, royal colleges, board directors and other healthcare professionals and individuals involved in the delivery of patient care and public involvement. Improved governance systems will be achieved through the promotion of a National Quality Governance Fellowship Educational Programme, research publications and policy positions, symposia discussions and direct healthcare organisation providing governance support via audits and invited reviews to healthcare organisations.

The QGC's goal is to be an exemplar by helping to shape UK and international quality governance practice, ensuring that health systems continue to deliver for patients.

## Working in Partnership with the World Health Organization

The QGC is now working in partnership with the World Health Organization and jointly hosting programmes of work and governance fellowships in multiple countries. Together, a novel, joint definition has been developed.

## Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh/World Health Organization joint definition of Excellence in Quality Governance in healthcare:

The means by which all institutions and organisations involved in the design and delivery of healthcare translate health policy into clinical practice and management in order to improve the quality and efficiency of healthcare.

*‘The ability to ask the right questions and to implement the right mechanisms to ensure the organisation discharges its duties in line with its purpose and with focus on good clinical practice.’*

Right Question – Right Answer – Right Time – Right Outcome

### Excellence in Governance Programme- Inaugural Cohort

Following the continued success of the RCPE QGC Fellowship programme, the College has been approached by Chairs, Senior Executive and Non-Executive Directors, – from Health and other organisations – to host a dedicated programme focusing on the Governance needs of this high level group. The perception is that no programme currently exists for such a grouping and Governance development programmes were focused on new or aspirant Board Directors.

The proposed programme, is to host a short life learning set model, targeted at members of Boards with specific governance issues. The programme would be of a six month duration and hosted by the RCPE President, Vice-Chair of the QGC Prof John Connell and the Director of the QGC Prof Michael Deighan. The cohort participants would be a maximum of 6-8 and attendance will be by application only. The group would meet on no more than six occasions.

Significantly, the group would, in the neutral environment of the Royal College, be able to consider Governance problems as individuals and as a peer group. The request is for this group to have the opportunity to meet with/listen to high profile Directors/ Chairs, to interrogate them regarding their Governance responsibilities and to gain guidance- where appropriate – regarding their own agendas. The learning set would also have two expert QGC faculty members Professor Paul Gray (Previous Director General and Chief Executive NHS Scotland) and Professor John Brown (Chair; Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board) to support and underpin the programme, who have responsibility within International/ National Boards.

This program will provide leading edge direction and innovation in governance.