

FACULTY OF FORENSIC & LEGAL MEDICINE

of the Royal College of Physicians of London



Registered Charity No 1119599

Registrar's Report to 2022 AGM

Your Faculty has continued to work hard for your interests throughout the year. A look at our Achievements and Performances (outlined in the Trustees' Report) will show the large number of webinars and meetings with other bodies. Our website has increased in visitor numbers we continue to attract.

Responding to your concerns as expressed in our membership survey (thanks to all of you who responded – we carefully read all your comments) - we have continued and will continue our efforts to obtain specialty recognition. This has been a frustrating (and at times Kafka-esque) journey, as we have met not just with failure, but refusal to explain the grounds for failure. We have now, after much deliberation, submitted a Freedom of Information request – but as yet this has gone unanswered. Please be assured we will continue to strive for this.

We held a strategy day with the FFLM Board on 19 January 2022 which helped us to develop our current strategy – we remain focussed on:

- Working to obtain specialty status;
- Increasing the profile of our Faculty.

We know that many of you face huge challenges in your forensic career due to outsourcing. We had a series of meetings with the Metropolitan Police Service to raise our concerns about their model of healthcare, and were promised further meetings to review the situation. At the time of writing this, we have had no response to several requests for the promised review – I am sorry about this, and am continuing to chase those responsible.

We have made some gains out of the pandemic – not least a reduction in costs due to the absence of face to face meetings (which has enabled us to continue to hold the cost of membership) and the production of a large number of well-received webinars.

We have welcomed new members from the secure and detained settings and I look forward to welcoming DVLA doctors if the amendment to the Standing Orders is passed at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

The AGM will also be asked to approve an amendment to the Standing Orders to the roles of the Vice-Presidents (VPs). We would like to introduce a VP for Allied Healthcare Professionals and move Medically Qualified Coroners to 'sit' under the VP for Legal Medicine.

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The Faculty is grateful for all of you for your continued membership. We are very keen for the widest possible involvement from all our members, and there are very many ways you can get involved. Next May, both your President and I will demit office. Please consider whether YOU could take on a role within the Faculty - speak to any of the Senior Officers if you would like more information.

My thanks to my fellow Senior Officers, and to all of you who have contacted the Faculty with your concerns and queries. Our biggest strength is our membership, and we value all of you. If you have colleagues who are not yet members, please encourage them to join us. And huge thanks as always to Jay Costa, Charlene Campbell and Tessa Lewis, without whom the Faculty would really struggle – they all work tirelessly on your behalf, and I certainly could not function without their support.

The next FFLM Conference and 17th AGM will be held at the Principal Hotel in York on Friday 05 and Saturday 06 May 2023.