GMC/PMETB Quality Assurance of the Foundation Programme (QAFP) visit to the Oxford Deanery on 9-13 November 2009

Information for Foundation Doctors

1. The General Medical Council (GMC) and the Postgraduate Medical Education and Training Board (PMETB) have different but complementary responsibilities regarding Foundation Programme training. The GMC sets and maintains standards and outcomes for Foundation Year One (F1) and the PMETB sets and maintains standards for Foundation Year Two (F2). Together, the GMC and PMETB carry out visits to assess the provision of foundation training in deaneries – QAFP visits. You can find out more about the regulator’s responsibility and QAFP visits here: [http://www.gmc-uk.org/education/postgraduate/quality_assurance.asp](http://www.gmc-uk.org/education/postgraduate/quality_assurance.asp)

2. The QAFP visit teams are comprised of a team leader, a lay person, a foundation doctor, a specialty trainee, a Foundation Programme Training Director and a clinician or general practitioner. If you meet with the QAFP visit team during their visit they will introduce themselves to you. You can find out about the team visiting your deanery here: [http://www.gmc-uk.org/education/postgraduate/quality_assurance/about_qapf.asp](http://www.gmc-uk.org/education/postgraduate/quality_assurance/about_qapf.asp)

3. The QAFP visit team are assessing the quality of the deanery. We are interested in the provision of foundation training and consider the policies, processes and systems in place to support this provision. In order to gather information from a variety of sources the team visit three Trust sites within the deanery and meet with senior Trust personnel, those responsible for delivering the foundation programme in the Trust, educational supervisors who have responsibility for foundation doctors, and foundation doctors. The team will discuss various aspects of the provision of foundation training with these groups of people.

4. If you are among the foundation doctors attending a meeting with the QAFP visit team, please do not be concerned. The team are not assessing you, or your performance in any way. They are assessing the Deanery. The team would like to hear your views on your foundation training and we encourage you to be open with us and participate in the discussion. What you say to the visit team will be anonymous and will not be directly attributed to any individual in the report of the visit.

5. Because the GMC has a responsibility to the public regarding patient safety, if the team come across something that could raise patient or foundation doctor safety issues they may need to follow it up with you and take a slightly different approach. If this happens the team will let you know and will agree how to best proceed with the issue with your involvement.

6. If you would like any further information or if you have any questions please contact Jennifer Barron, JBarron@gmc-uk.org or 020 7189 5397.