

SLIDO questions for NSHCS from Cohort 3 Section C workshop 06.09.2018

1. Please can the NSHCS provide an update on IAPS?

The School expects to integrate and run this in parallel with the HSST exit process. We are currently finalising a schematic timeline and will update trainees as soon as it is complete.

2. How will the NSHCS create a positive environment for trainees to ask for help with workload study balance?

The School offers all trainees an avenue for confidentially discussing all problems of workload study balance directly. The commitment of employers to offering a positive training environment is a part of the accreditation process that departments are required to commit to when commissioning a post. However ultimately the School can only offer advice as achieving that balance is something that requires negotiation and agreement between the trainee and the employer.

3. How does the NSHCS propose to manage the mental health impact of changing goalposts for programme completion?

The School recognises that there has been substantial flux throughout the first years of this newly launched programme and this has especially impacted Cohorts 1 and 2. Changes in programme delivery have been discussed with trainee representatives in an attempt to recognise and ease the burden on trainees whilst also recognising the need to maintain the standards required of a doctoral level programme.

The School has no direct resource to directly support trainees through mental health issues and advises that help is sought early through local services either via their employers' Occupational Health services or through their General Practitioner.

4. Is there any guidance on the amount of dedicated time away from clinic duties that should be given to trainees completing the innovation project (C1)?

The School recommends that an employer offers dedicated study time to HSST trainees for the academic component of the programme but cannot dictate what that should be. All HSST activities undertaken in the workplace, including the C1 innovation project, should be integrated into the job plan of the trainee and not seen as separate and additional to those responsibilities. This requires a commitment from both the employer and the prospective HSST trainee and should be agreed before considering commissioning such a post.