

Academic Forum - 13th January 2021

Chair – Professor *Ewan Macdonald*;

Attendance Prof *Neil Greenberg*; *Vaughan Parsons*, Prof *Kim Burton*, *Rob Aitken*, *Finola Ryan* Dr *Gwen Wynne Jones*, Prof *Damien Macvelly*, *Tash Heydon*, *Laurie Magowan*, *Jean Engela*, Dr *Sarah Connolly*, *Nick Pahl*, *Michael Whitmore*, *Amy Edens*

Apologies – Dr *Andrew Curran*, *Elaine Wainwright*

1 Minutes of the last meeting were noted

2 Updates

- Progress with MRC/ESRC and DWP /DHSC re centre for work and health with consultancy call for review of scope and governance
- Noted support from this forum and SOM/FOM to take it forward
- Consultant – Steve O Neill - engaging with stakeholders as to views of project
- Noted interim results of international survey on academic base
- To be reviewed by trainees
- Widen results via EPICOH – via Damien

3 Update on research

- *Vaughan Parsons* – Project - OH risks associated with Covid infection among NHS workers in England. Export occurring from ESR system – with Prof *Coggan* and colleagues at Imperial - that captures sickness absence in the workforce. Also processing Anybody and Antigen results. Next meeting – summary information
- Prof *Martie van Tongeren* – looking at outbreaks and designing protocol for workplace outbreaks. Also risk perceptions on transport; and study on food industry. As part of wider projects commissioned by Dr *Andrew Curran* looking at transmission in the workplace.
- Dr *Rob Aitken* – variety of IOM Health risk management projects. UK associate status in Horizon Europe -so UK researchers can still participate
- *Michael Whitmore* RAND - Britain's healthy workplaces data continuing. Looking at NIHR opportunities. Released information on financial wellbeing with Wellcome foundation
- Dr *Finola Ryan* - Trainee – can assist with statistical support. At Kings looking to set up a Long Covid clinic. Also setting up studies on performing arts and MSK de conditioning. Also looking at circadian rhythms and better time for performing and getting injured
- *Tash Heydon* - Colt Foundation – mental health not sole focus – interested in all Occupational Health and Environmental Health Research. Next round to close in March
- *Laurie Magowan* - University of Exeter – looking at SMEs and work and health in Cornwall. Looking to influence policy and interested in productivity
- *Kim Burton* – Knowledge transfer project with Swiss Re for those on income protection insurance. Survey with University of Derby to understand needs of people with Long Covid.
- *Jean* – doing academic fellowship at University of Cardiff. Looking at scope of future research
- Professor *Neil Greenberg* – NHS Check study across Trusts – 25000 people – looking at moral injury and PTSD. Study in Journal of OM in ITU workers.
- UEA/RAND looking at wellbeing and productivity – following organisation over the past year. See that must believe that organisation believes in health and wellbeing for. Learning that many of the wellbeing initiatives most effective for those who have lower levels of wellbeing. Looking at the Police and move to home working and how supported if vulnerable adults in households

- Amy Edens – DWP /DHSC responding to health is everyone’s business consultation and progressing centre for work and health

4 Covid research

- Long Covid
- Mental health
- Delivery – vaccination / testing

5 Noted statements from SOM on testing and vaccines