

BAA President Blog – 10th August 2020

On behalf of your Board, I want to say ‘thank you’ to all of you, for all the hard work and effort you are making to keep delivering your services. We are still working through difficult times as we start to reintroduce our clinics or increase activity. This is going to be an even greater challenge for those services we know have been displaced from their areas of work.

We are all doing the very best we can for our service users, and I know that many are very grateful for what you are doing in these challenging times. Many will still be anxious and stressed with all the uncertainty and working in different ways. It is ok to feel like this; it has been a very steep learning curve for all of us. I hope you are finding the advice and guidance useful for working safely and thinking about moving forward.

Over the last week there have been some new documents from the DoH and NHS England released. The NHS People Plan is worth reading. There are sections in there that hint at future changes in how we deliver services and the future of training in healthcare – we will be looking more at this soon. I have been thinking about how BAA had met some of the areas in the Plan – Health and Wellbeing, the Joint Guidance that helps us to work safely during Covid 19, remote working suggestions and Equality and Diversity.

The BAA Board has been working towards understanding why we have few BAME members on our committees and rarely on Board. We are working with specialists in the field and Jagjit Sethi (one of our Past presidents). Jagjit, who is working with Dame Sue Hill, has been tasked with equality and diversity in Healthcare Science, so we will keep you informed on our work to ensure equality and diversity in representations. (Dare I say, the work may also include a webinar?)

The other important information you should be aware of are the letter from [Sir Simon Stephens to all CEOs of NHS trusts on restarting activity](#), and the [update from NHS England on moving forward](#) – which indicates that Adult services can re-start. It also includes some changes to follow up consultations.

We are planning the content for the next BAA Heads of Service online meeting in September as there will be a lot more to share and discuss with you.

Stay safe and stay well.

Kath Lewis