

BAA President Blog – 1st November 2021

We are really looking forward to the annual conference in a few weeks' time and seeing all those who can join us in Manchester. I am also looking forward to welcoming two new Board members. Although we are not having a formal dinner on the Thursday, the conference team have secured the Impossible Bar in Manchester for people to have a place to meet and enjoys some drinks following the extended exhibition and food at the conference centre.

Personally, I am both excited and nervous, but there is a fabulous team behind all this, and I have strict instructions on where I need to be at any one time. I hope a lot of you come to talk to us on the stand and open a debate on how you feel we are doing.

There has been a lot going on behind the scenes, some of which we will be sharing soon.

One of the main concerns for some of our private practice members has been letters from the Care Quality Commission (CQC) regarding them providing services that the CQC say should come under accreditation, and the implication that they would be fined if they did not either have CQC inspections and accreditation or cease what they were doing.

I wrote to the CQC on behalf of BAA members to check if what we were hearing about the threatening letters was true. The CQC have replied, but their response doesn't clear things up. As a Board we have looked at this and there are several aspects we will be following up on. Please let us know if you also have any questions regarding the standards referred to.

We are behind our profession being regulated, and accreditation indicates we meet at least a minimum standard of care, which offers the best reassurance to all our stakeholders. However, this needs to be very clear for all Audiology professionals.

As I have said many times, please let us know if there is anything you would like to discuss.

Take care

Kath Lewis