

Financial Position Statement (2021-22¹)

The JCST works on behalf of the surgical Royal Colleges of the UK and Ireland to shape the future of surgical training for the benefit of patients, and to support surgical trainees and trainers.

The JCST oversees the work of the 10 Specialty Advisory Committees (SACs), the Core Surgical Training Advisory Committee (CSTAC), and the Training Interface Groups (TIGs). Other subcommittees include:

- The ISCP Management Committee, which supports the development and maintenance of all the surgical curricula and the online training management system (the ISCP); the Data Analysis, Audit and Research Group (DAARG), which is responsible for monitoring and analysing data held in ISCP and JCST databases to support internal and external research projects.
- The Quality Assurance (QA) Group, which supports national quality management and quality improvement processes.

Committee members are involved with and participate in the delivery of National Selection, which is supported and managed by Health Education England's (HEE) [Medical and Dental Recruitment and Selection](#) (MDRS) team.

Our main workstreams cover the following areas:

- Trainee services:
 - enrol, monitor training and process recommendations for certification – **477** new specialty trainees enrolled and **591** trainees recommended during this period
 - support and provide advice and guidance to trainees and trainers on a wide range of issues
 - provide a bespoke helpdesk service, and
 - provide administrative support to Specialty Advisory Committees (SACs) and other sub-committees and groups.
- Curricula and the ISCP:
 - write, review and support the development of surgical curricula and syllabi for the 10 surgical specialties and core surgery in line with the regulatory framework
 - maintain and develop the [online training management system](#) (the ISCP) which currently holds **30,159** registered users.
- Quality:
 - support national quality assurance and local quality management and improvement processes across the UK and Ireland
 - provide a network of SAC Liaison Members to support externality requirements at ARCP and STC panel meetings
 - develop Quality Indicators (QIs) for training placements
 - update and run the JCST Trainee and Trainer surveys and report on annual results, and
 - support the production and delivery of annual regional specialty reports.
- CESR:
 - assess applications for the Certificate of Eligibility for Specialist Registration (CESR) on behalf of the General Medical Council (GMC) – **136** evaluations and **59** reviews completed during this period.

The fee covers all of the above and any other activities and projects the JCST is involved with. The exception is CESR work for which the GMC pay the JCST.

The JCST fee² is set annually by the four Royal College Presidents, taking into account predicted financial performance and affordability. We publish this summary as part of our ongoing commitment to transparency on the operational costs of JCST.

Financial position 2021-22:

Our total income for the July 2021-June 2022 financial year was £2,359,442, this includes £2,183,592 from JCST fee income and £175,580 from CESR income. After operating costs, this led to a surplus of £463,732 for that financial year. Much of this surplus was the result of a number of staff vacancies, which created workload challenges within the JCST team, and reduced expenditure in travelling expenses.

Our aim remains to ensure ongoing funding for our strategic plan and we expect to continue to:

- provide a resilient, highly functional JCST and ISCP structures by continuing to make the necessary investments in IT, website systems and other resources;
- manage the increasing quality improvement and regulatory demands; and
- review JCST processes to make improvements where we can to streamline and remove the administrative burden on trainees, trainers and JCST staff.

It behoves the four surgical Royal Colleges to ensure that there is a sustainable model for all JCST activities which supports trainees, trainers, and training systems in the UK and Ireland.

Joint Committee on Surgical Training on behalf of the surgical Royal Colleges of the UK and Ireland (March 2023)

¹ The JCST follows the RCS England's financial year i.e. July to June.

² At the Joint Surgical Colleges Meeting in January 2023, the Presidents agreed that the fee would remain at £260 for the coming academic year (2023-24).