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The Scottish School of Primary Care (SSPC) is a virtual school comprising all academic University departments with significant primary care research output.

Current members are the Universities of:

- Aberdeen
- Dundee
- Edinburgh
- Glasgow
- Stirling



## SSPC Vision is for:

- Sustainable and equitable high quality primary care that meets the needs of the people of Scotland.

Within this, we aspire to be:

- Relevant
- Credible
- Respected
- Trusted



## SSPC current strategic objectives are to:

- *Inform* our key stakeholders by *collating* relevant available national and international evidence, as well as actively *contributing* to the growing evidence base.
- *Support* the continuing growth of Academic Primary Care in Scotland.
- *Promote* Scottish Academic Primary Care internationally.



## Background

- First established in 2000 to increase research capacity by enabling research into important aspects of general practice and primary care to take place in a collaborative fashion across all Scottish University Departments of General Practice.
- For several years, it received core funding from the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) and the Chief Scientist Office (CSO).



## Background continued.....

- Main strands of work were to:
  - develop programmes of internationally recognised, methodologically rigorous research which address important issues in Scotland and beyond, and
  - ensure higher level career development opportunities for researchers.
- Worked closely with the Scottish Primary Care Research Network (initially integrated with SSPC, now separately funded by the Chief Scientist Office) which has a remit to:
  - increase recruitment to trials and other methodologically rigorous research.



## Current Funding



- September 2015 – March 2018 the Scottish Government, Primary Care Division awarded £1.25m (ie £500k per calendar year). However, this is not academic primary care capacity-building money, but funding to evaluate specific themes and projects that the Government will define.
- Funding for capacity-building remains a priority, and SSPC will continue to lobby for this.



## What are we doing at the moment? 1

- Preparing '**Evidence for Improvement**' briefing papers for GP cluster working on:
  - Prescribing safety
  - Multimorbidity
  - Uses of telehealth
  - Early diagnosis of cancer
  - Chronic pain
  - + others to be developed

## What are we doing at the moment? 2

- **Reviews of evidence** on request of government: e.g. current review completed of the Quality and Outcomes Framework
- SSPC commissioned by Scottish Government **to evaluate rigorously projects** funded by the £60 million Primary Care Transformation Fund. Evaluation framework just developed July 2016

## Governance

- SSPC Advisory Group
- Half yearly meetings; representatives from professional clinical organisations, NHS across Scotland, Scottish Government

## Date for your diary



**SSPC Conference 2016**  
**10.00-13.00hrs**  
**9 September 2016**

To apply:  
 visit [www.sspc.ac.uk/](http://www.sspc.ac.uk/)  
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