

# A Day in the Life of an RCSEd Vice Chair (Non-Doctor) – Meet Chris Shaw

The RCSEd Faculty of Pre-Hospital Care is currently recruiting for a Vice Chair (Non-Doctor) to take office from April 2025 following the retirement of Vice Chair (Non-Doctor) Mr Chris Shaw.

Faculty Manager, Beth Stevenson sat down with Chris, who has held the role since October 2021, and learned more about his position as Vice Chair (Non-Doctor) and what he has brought to the table in his capacity.

## OVERVIEW OF CHRIS

Professional background is in acute-sector healthcare.

Experience in specialty roles within the public, private and third sectors; spanning emergency medicine, critical care, prehospital and retrieval medicine, resuscitation practice, public health, research, clinical education and high-fidelity simulation.

Primary area of clinical interest is prehospital emergency medicine.

Diverse range of operational experience across [helicopter] emergency medical services, lowland search & rescue, maritime/offshore, industrial sites and event & mass gathering medicine settings; with specific experience across incident command and delivery of clinical care in less permissive environments (confined spaces, work at height, and remote settings with prolonged extrication & transport times).

Critical Care Practitioner, EMRTS Cymru, Immediate Care Practitioner, Medserve Wales, Clinical Support Member, West Midlands CARE Team, Assistant Medical Director, All Wales PHEM Specialty Training Committee Member, Examiner, Diploma & Fellowship in Immediate Medical Care

## What motivated you to take on this position?

I've been involved with the faculty for some time as an immediate medical care examiner and more recently an elected advisory board member. These are both comparatively niche roles and I was attracted to the co-vice chair role to increase my involvement (and learning!) across the breadth of the faculty's activities.

### 1. What knowledge and experience do you need for this role?

Broad operational experience has proven the most beneficial, facilitation interaction with a wide range of faculty members, regional groups and external organisations. Often this is groups for whom pre-hospital clinical care is a small subset of their overall operational activity, as an example representing the faculty on the National Police Chief's Council clinical

governance forum. This requires a working knowledge of the faculty's clinical standards and training course endorsement procedures and translating those to external organisational settings.

**2. What set of skills and abilities do you require for this role?**

Communication skills, particularly around negotiation are key. There are often differing professional opinions to consider, be that around clinical standards, training, equipment, and it's important to represent the position of the faculty whilst considering and respecting the opinions of others.

**3. What is the workload and how did you manage it?**

There are definitely peaks and troughs of workload. The pre-publication review of the manual of core material was a particularly high-intensity workload period, necessitating negotiation with other team members about mutually convenient work periods. A degree of flexibility is needed, with commitments to external organisational meetings necessarily being during 'office' hours, but faculty committee and office bearer meetings running in the evenings. I would say there's a consistent commitment of 1-2 days per month, with email queries and document reviews in between.

**4. What have been some of the parts you have enjoyed most, and would you recommend the role to others?**

The variety of the role is really interesting, working on nursing specific workstreams, wider faculty strategy and with multiple external organisations. I would absolutely recommend the role to others and assure that whether paramedic or nurse by registration you'll have the support of the advisory board to ensure representation across all the non-medical membership groups.

The Faculty of Pre-Hospital Care is seeking applications for the position of Vice Chair (Non-Doctor). Should you be interested in applying for this role, please contact the Faculty for more information by emailing [fphc@rcsed.ac.uk](mailto:fphc@rcsed.ac.uk)

To apply for this role [click here](#)

The applications closing date for this role is **17.00 7 March 2025**