

Leads of the surgical Trainee Associations

(Sent via email)

1 March 2022

**Dear Trainee Association Leads** 

## **Re: Consensus statement of ISCP registration fees for surgical trainees**

Thank you for your letter dated 15 February 2022 regarding the training fee – I recognise the concerns raised and appreciate your suggestions.

The fee covers all of JCST's activities, including access to the online training management system within the ISCP. It is set by the Presidents of the four surgical Royal Colleges, and decisions regarding the fee are agreed by this same group.

The ISCP online portfolio is a bespoke complex interactive platform maintained and developed in line with a project plan and resources available. As such, additional digital development work needs to be planned and weighed against ongoing and already-agreed future developments. Although changes to the way we bill are already on our web development list it is a large area of work and will take some time from inception to completion and online roll-out. Changes to the way the fee is processed will also require discussion and agreement from the Presidents.

The JCST will always support trainees throughout the course of their training and will never act in a way to penalise or treat them unfairly. We have always had a policy for offering reduced fees for those out of programme or on parental leave or other statutory leave, and we follow this policy of reimbursement when a valid request has been made. Until such time that we are able to make changes to the website any trainee who feels that they are entitled to a reduced fee should contact the helpdesk team on <u>helpdesk@iscp.ac.uk</u>. Appropriate reimbursement will be made to those who fit the criteria.

Our Fee FAQs are available on the JCST website <u>here</u> and on the ISCP website <u>here</u>. We also make a reference to eligibility for reduced fees on the "JCST Fee>Make a payment" page in ISCP.

Yours sincerely

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