

Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) of The Royal College of Radiologists held on 16 February 2012

The EGM was held on 16 February to debate two Resolutions on the subject of the Health and Social Care Bill. The meeting was attended by 52 Fellows and members and was chaired by the President, Dr Jane Barrett. The minutes of the meeting will appear on the website soon. In order to inform Fellows and members, the voting on the Resolutions is set out below.

As was announced at the start of the meeting, the College Supplemental Charter states that "The management of the College shall be vested in the Council...". This means that the outcome of this EGM cannot be binding upon Council but it can be persuasive. The President told the meeting that a full report on the outcome of the EGM will be put before Council at its next meeting and will be discussed. Until the outcomes of the EGM have been discussed with Council members, the College will maintain its stated position in strongly opposing the passage of the Bill in its current form. The College will also continue to engage fully with Ministers and other parties.

1. Resolution proposed by the Council

That bearing in mind the further Parliamentary stages for the Health and Social Care Bill, this meeting invites the Council to pursue the most appropriate approach towards the Bill taking account of the needs of patients, the quality of clinical radiology and clinical oncology services for patients, opinion expressed at this meeting and the short and longer term interests of the College.

CARRIED: 20 in favour; none against and 24 abstentions

2. Resolution proposed by more than 40 Fellows and members eligible to speak and vote at an Extraordinary General Meeting:

[Note: with the agreement of the mover of this resolution, it was debated as a whole but each part (a)-(f) was voted on separately]

That this meeting:

(a) welcomes the RCR statement that it cannot support, and must continue to oppose the passage of the Health and Social Care Bill in its current form;

CARRIED: unanimously

(b) considers that the Health and Social Care Bill, if passed, will damage the NHS and widen healthcare inequalities, with detrimental effects on patient care in England;

CARRIED: unanimously

(c) cannot support the Health and Social Care Bill without seeing the NHS reform Risk Register;

CARRIED: 47 in favour; none against and one abstention

(d) calls upon the RCR to publicly call for withdrawal of the Health and Social Care Bill;

CARRIED: 36 in favour; 10 against and three abstentions

(e) calls upon the RCR to seek an alliance with the BMA, RCN, RCM and other willing Royal Colleges and NHS stakeholder organisations to collectively call for the withdrawal of the Health and Social Care Bill;

CARRIED: 32 in favour; 15 against and one abstention

(f) calls upon the RCR to hold a joint press conference with the BMA and other willing Royal Colleges and NHS stakeholder organisations, to make a joint public statement calling for the Bill to be withdrawn.

CARRIED: 32 in favour; 15 against and one abstention