COPMeD
CONFERENCE OF POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL DEANS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

Accelerated progression of specialty medical training and bringing forward Completion of Training (CCT) / Programme completion dates

While the specialty curricula have indicative durations, some Postgraduate Doctors in Training (PgDiTs) could progress to completion in a shorter time than indicated. due to acquisition of capabilities during the programme ahead of that determined by the curriculum,

The approach of tailoring programme duration to the individual is in keeping with the role of the statutory education bodies to deliver an effective and highly trained workforce for the NHS.

This document outlines the principles for reducing training time based on individual circumstance.

Where a curriculum has pre-defined stages, transition through which is determined by demonstration of capability against pre-defined criteria, progression through those stages will be managed through the current ARCP process and relevant curriculum.

Principles

a) The agreement to an application to bring forward a CCT date will *normally* be at the penultimate ARCP.

b) The decision rests with the Postgraduate Dean advised by the ARCP panel.

c) The principles set out in Gold Guide Ed. 10 paras 4.1-4.17 apply.

d) Acceleration of training and change to a programme completion date will be based on evidenced current clinical capability and speed of progression to guide a learning needs assessment and estimation of the time needed to achieve the curriculum competencies.

e) Changes to a programme completion date do not remove the need to meet contractual requirements with an employer or placement provider, including notice periods.

f) It is recognised that professional maturity and dealing with uncertainty are sometimes difficult to assess and that educators may err on the side of caution to ensure patient and practitioner safety.

g) A reduction in training time will not be agreed if there are unresolved concerns about capability or conduct, including progression in specialty examinations or assessments required by the curriculum.

h) Acceleration of training due to previous experience or rapid progression is not possible in Foundation year 1.

i) For PgDiTs on dual- or triple- accreditation programmers, all programmes must be completed prior to application for CCT (Gold Guide 3.87).

Process

j) The decision to bring forward a CCT date will *normally* be at the penultimate ARCP. Applications after this time will not normally be considered on the basis that the penultimate ARCP would be able to identify outstanding capabilities and judge the amount of time required. In programmes where there are discrete curriculum stages, ARCP panels can consider exceptional progression to the next stage earlier in the programme.

k) The application to accelerate training should be agreed by the Educational Supervisor and PgDiT and communicated to the Training Programme Director prior to the ARCP date.

l) The PgDiT must ensure that there is demonstrable curriculum sign off, supported by appropriate evidence, to support such an application.

m) The Educational Supervisor will provide a statement of support to the ARCP panel if they agree that a change in programme end date is appropriate.

n) The ARCP panel will assess the information provided and determine whether sufficient evidence exists to reduce the overall training time required.

o) There no appeals processes for this decision, however it is expected that an ARCP panel rejecting an application will provide clear reasons for their decision.

p) The reduction in training time will be a minimum of a single placement within the programme, or 4 months (whichever is shorter).

q) The maximum reduction in programme duration rests with the ARCP panel and would not normally be in excess or 1 year unless exceptional circumstances apply.

r) Where the ARCP panel supports the request, they will write to the Postgraduate Dean to seek approval for a change to the CCT and defining

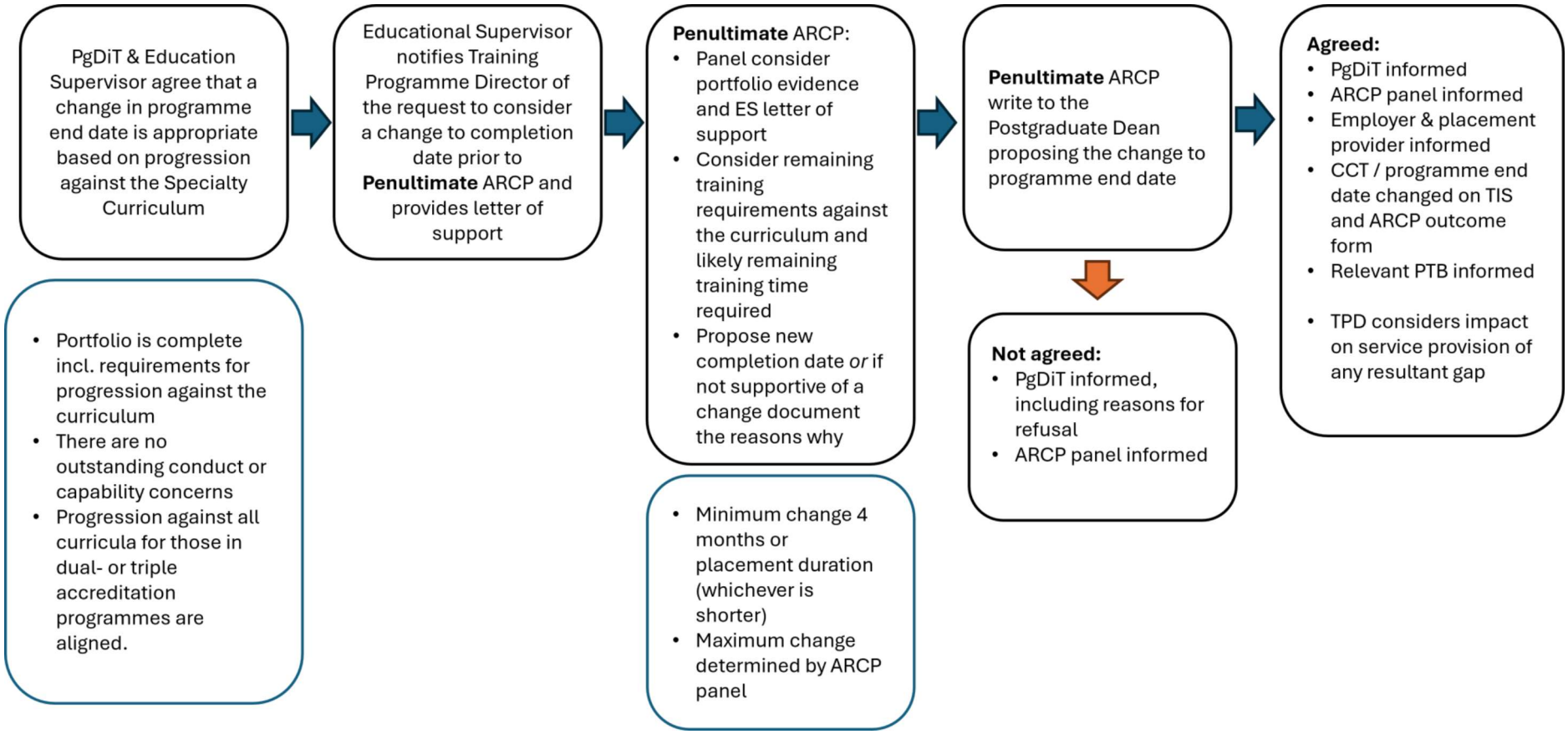
the next training year that will be entered. The final decision rests with the Postgraduate Dean.

s) Once agreed, any additional training time required will be provided as an extension as defined by Gold Guide para. 4.100 – 4.115.

Principles for for PgDiTs working less than full time

a. Where a PgDiT applies for, and is accepted for, LTFT training, the CCT will automatically be moved back to allow for the increased duration of the programme (Gold Guide para 4.87 iv.)

b. A PgDiT working less that full time can apply to have a CCT brought forward in line with the principles and process described above.


PgDiT & Education Supervisor agree that a change in programme end date is appropriate based on progression against the Specialty Curriculum
Educational Supervisor notifies Training Programme Director of the request to consider a change to completion date prior to **Penultimate** ARCP and provides letter of support
Penultimate ARCP:
• Panel consider portfolio evidence and ES letter of support
• Consider remaining training requirements against the curriculum and likely remaining training time required
• Propose new completion date *or* if not supportive of a change document the reasons why
Penultimate ARCP write to the Postgraduate Dean proposing the change to programme end date
Agreed:
• PgDiT informed
• ARCP panel informed
• Employer & placement provider informed
• CCT / programme end date changed on TIS and ARCP outcome form
• Relevant PTB informed
• TPD considers impact on service provision of any resultant gap
Not agreed:
• PgDiT informed, including reasons for refusal
• ARCP panel informed
• Portfolio is complete incl. requirements for progression against the curriculum
• There are no outstanding conduct or capability concerns
• Progression against all curricula for those in dual- or triple accreditation programmes are aligned.
• Minimum change 4 months or placement duration (whichever is shorter)
• Maximum change determined by ARCP panel