

Proposal to Merge ACC and CMGS

Angela Douglas, Chair – ACC
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Drivers for Change

- Close working relationship between ACC and CMGS in recent years
- Outside of Genetics, two disciplines increasingly seen as one
- Joint Training Programme – MSC
 - Genetics Education and Training Board
- Shared Technology
- New Policies and Reforms
- Challenges for Genetics in Molecular Pathology/Diagnostics
 - Centralisation
- Some Cytogenetic and Molecular Services already Unified
- Support for change

Strategic Direction of Travel

Benefits

- A greater voice at National level to represent laboratory Genetics
- Able to provide unified response to Major Topics
- Better able to determine strategic direction
- A single point of contact for the discipline
- Bringing together the wealth of experience and knowledge held by the two disciplines
- A single harmonised identity
- A greater sense of belonging for all its members

Proposal for Change

If the memberships approve the 'Special Resolution' to dissolve the two Societies:

- ACC and CMGS will be dissolved
- Replaced with a new Professional Body
- The memberships and assets will be merged

We Need Your Votes

In order to proceed we need the following:

- Consent from two-thirds (66.7)% of CMGS Members, attending an Annual or Extraordinary Meeting, i.e. voting in favour of the 'Special Resolution' to dissolve the CMGS
 - Ballot to take place at Extraordinary meeting at BSHG in September
 - Proxy voting will apply to this meeting
- The ACC will require the consent of three-fourths (75%) of the Members, testified by their signatures to an Instrument of Dissolution in the form prescribed by the Treasury Regulations i.e. Members must vote in favour of the 'Special Resolution' to dissolve the ACC.
 - A Postal Ballot will take place shortly after this Spring Conference
 - Proxy voting will apply to this Postal Ballot

Communication Strategy

- Two Exec teams have met 3 times in past year to discuss joint Professional Body
- Overwhelming support from HOD's in November
- Engagement with Membership Imperative
- Joint 'Web Page' now up and running
 - Provides forum to post information about the process for comments, suggestions and questions.

Dissolution of ACC and CMGS

If the ballot is in favour of Dissolution of ACC and CMGS:

- Executive teams will register, in accordance with legislation, an ‘instrument of Dissolution’ with the Financial Services Authority (FSA) to dissolve the two respective Societies

Legalities

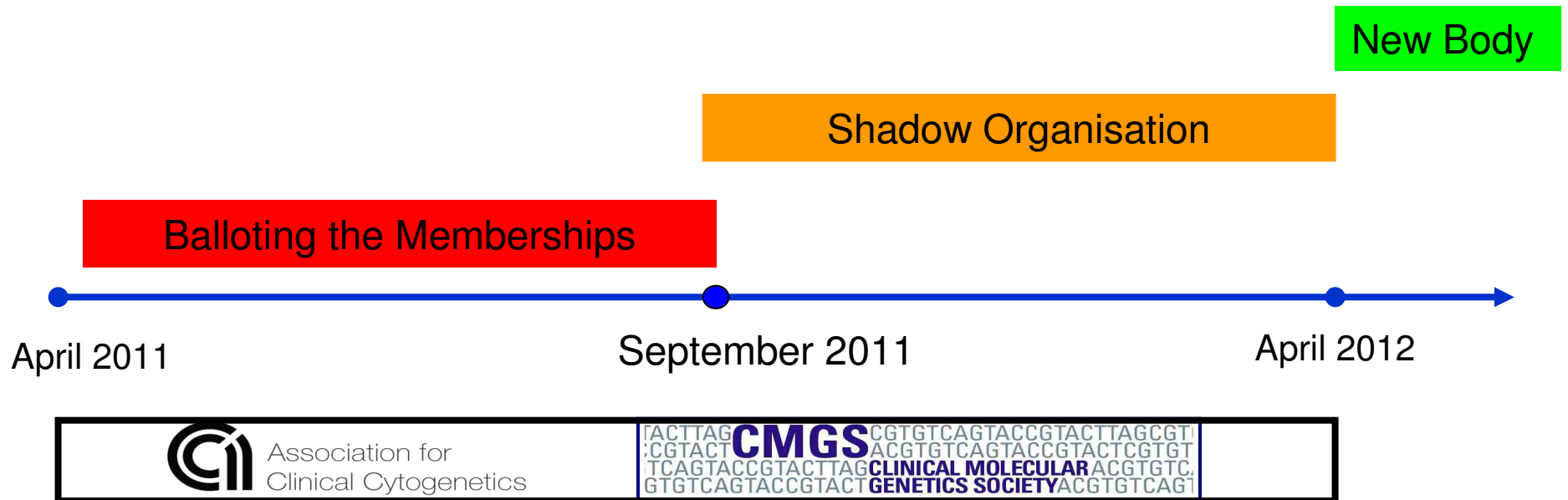
- Friendly Societies Act 1974 sections 93-97 will be followed
- Members will be given 14 days notice of the Ballot (ACC), or meeting at which the Ballot will be conducted (CMGS)
- All assets and Liabilities will be declared to the FSA
- Provision will be made for Creditors and Debtors with a 3 month period to complete
- If upon dissolution of the ACC/CMGS there remains, after satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, any property, whatsoever (including monetary), **the same shall not be paid or distributed among Members of the Association/Society**, but shall be given or transferred to some institution having objects similar to the objects of the Association/Society i.e. The New Professional Body

The Process

If the Membership agree to the 'Dissolution'
of the current Bodies:

- A New 'Shadow' organisation will be set up
- An interim Executive Committee of the Shadow organisation will be formed from existing Office Bearers of ACC and CMGS (Executive Members)
- This Executive will run alongside the existing ACC and CMGS Executive Committees and be tasked with the details of winding down the ACC and CMGS and establishing the new Professional Body
- The interim Executive Committee will be dissolved to make way for the Executive of the new body.

Timescale



The New Professional Body

- Aim is to launch new body at the Joint Spring meeting in 2012 (Birmingham)
- New Body will be a Charitable Organisation
- Possible names for Body will be sought from Current Memberships
 - Encompassing Remit of Genetics/Genomics and Diagnostic testing
 - The Executive will choose from the proposed names

The New Executive Committee

- Comprise of 12 Members
 - Serving 3 years
 - (exception of Chair- Can do 2 terms of Office)
 - 5 Office Bearers (Execs)
 - Chair, Deputy Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Deputy (Membership) Secretary.
 - 7 Ordinary Members
 - 5 of which will hold responsibility as Chairs for following Subgroups
 - Genetics Education and Training (exists)
 - Professional Best Practice and Audit
 - Scientific
 - Communication
 - Bioinformatics and Information (exists)

New Exec Committee (2)

- The future Chairs shall be elected from one of the residing committee members by the committee members
- The rest of the committee members to be elected from the membership by the membership
- The Exec Committee shall meet 3 times a year

Communication Committee

- Communication Committee initially will be tasked with Communicating the change to:
 - Membership
 - DH Genetics Unit
 - CSO Team
 - Committees and Sub-groups, ACC and CMGS are Members of
 - Other Stakeholders

Question and Answer Session