

# Structure and Function Review Papers

Following the Steering Group's decisions at its meeting in April 2016 in London to proceed with organizational structure and function changes to help Cochrane meet its *Strategy to 2020* objectives and goals, the Central Executive Team have put together a series of papers which set out in more detail the proposed changes to be implemented.

The papers included in this pack are:

***Paper One: Creating a more sustainable review production system for the Cochrane Library***

***Paper Two: Cochrane's Geographic Presence***

***Paper Three: Cochrane Fields: An update on proposals***

The first wave of Structure and Function Reviews conducted in 2014-15 looked at each Cochrane Group type in isolation in relation to the challenges posed by *Strategy to 2020*, and focused on the changes required within each Group type to help them meet those challenges. However, the Steering Group recognized that a 'second wave' of analysis was required that looked holistically at the ways all Groups worked together within an organizational perspective. It concluded that in order to position Cochrane for the future, and to ensure Cochrane was best equipped to meet its mission of promoting evidence-informed health decision-making, deeper level change was required. At its meeting in London in April 2016 the Steering Group set a clear direction of travel and tasked the Central Executive Teams with drawing up proposals aimed at ensuring that Cochrane's structures and ways of working were positioned optimally to meet its *Strategy to 2020* and to promote its longer term sustainability.

An initial set of proposals were developed, then subject to widespread consultation across the Cochrane community between July and September 2016. Following the extensive feedback received the proposals were further adapted and developed in more detail, resulting in the publication of two papers: Paper 1, covering the creation of a more sustainable and efficient review production system for the Cochrane Library; and Paper 2, covering the further development of Cochrane's geographic-oriented Groups, particularly in support of the production process, improved author support and dissemination and knowledge translation of Cochrane evidence.

Paper 3, however, is an Update and presented here to provide context to the other Papers rather than as a firm set of proposals. The reason for this is that the Cochrane Fields Structure and Function Review is highly interrelated with the development of the Cochrane Knowledge Translation Strategy, which is still in progress. The Update provides information on the potential future role of Fields based on what we know so far from the Knowledge Translation Strategy, but the proposals are far from complete and they have not yet been consulted on.

These Papers are now published to the whole Cochrane community and further feedback is invited to be given to the Central Executive ([strategy@cochrane.org](mailto:strategy@cochrane.org)); to [Cochrane Group Steering Group representatives](#); or to Group Executives by Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October. On Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October the Steering Group will discuss the Papers and make decisions on their recommendations. The next steps in implementing these decisions will then be discussed by Cochrane Group Executives at their meetings in Seoul in the days following.