



### Update from Ben Morris, FMS Faculty Rep (Chelmsford)

I have met twice with Penny Renwick (Interim Dean FMS) regarding funding for paramedic students and raising the profile of the course. I am in the process of contacting SU's / paramedic societies to find out what arrangements they have in place. I am also going to be meeting with Bethan to put together a letter to send to MPs addressing the issue of funding.

Similarly, current 2<sup>nd</sup> years are applying for SFE and some are coming back greatly reduced from previous years – some feeling they will be unable to continue with the course due to this cost. I am going to be working with the Faculty to collect data surrounding this and \*hope\* that the faculty, along with support from the Council of Deans of Health, will be able to put pressure on HEE & NHS learning support to increase funding, or at the very least address some of our concerns.

As this is more than likely a national problem I would like to get NUS involved.

Finally, I have spoken with FMS regarding the idea of peer support across the paramedic course - linking to placement areas. The idea would be a Facebook group for each complex (or hospital) where students can plan lifts or talk about parking or access to wards, any problems they are coming across etc. This is currently something which is popular within Nursing & Midwifery.