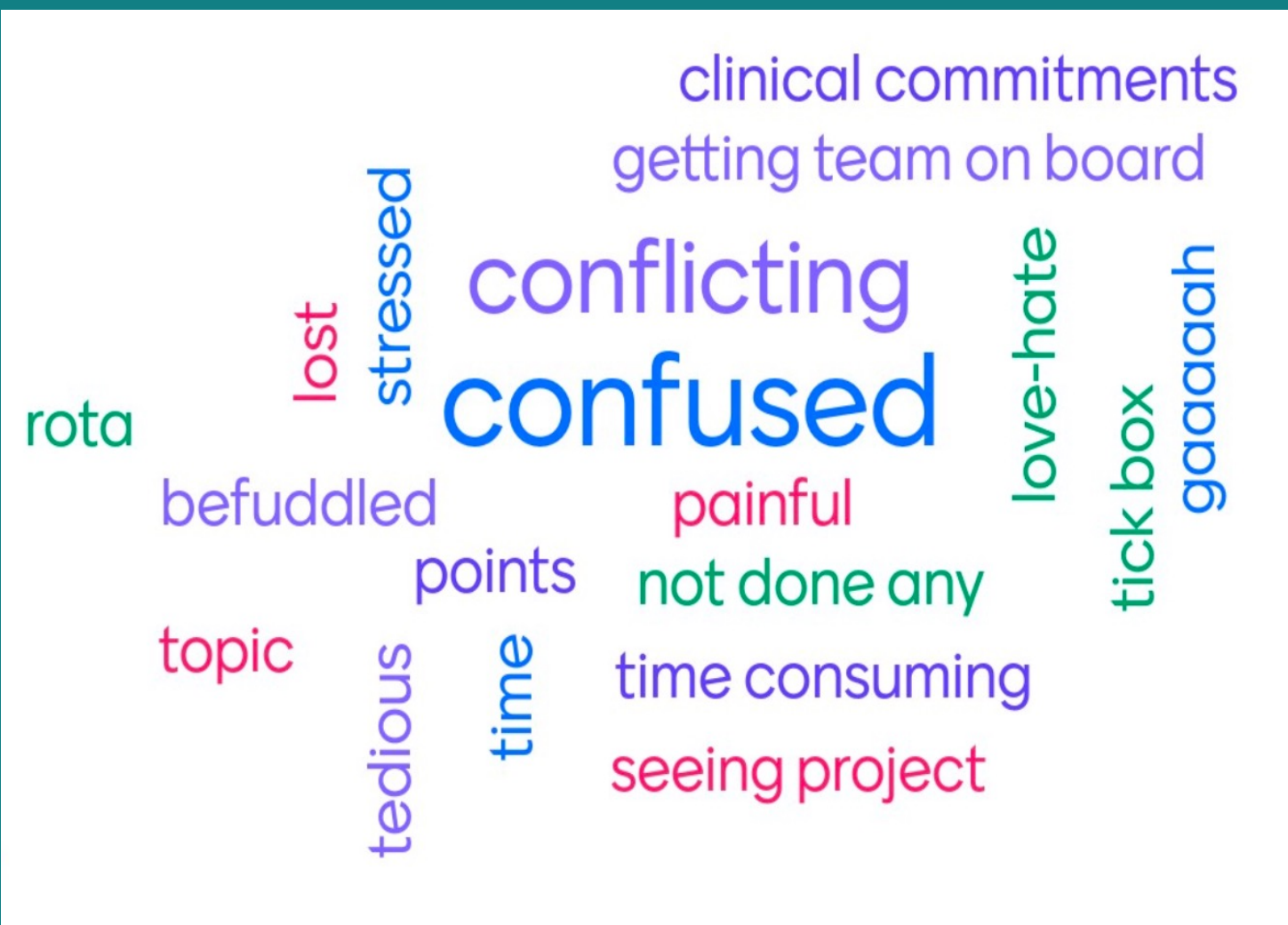
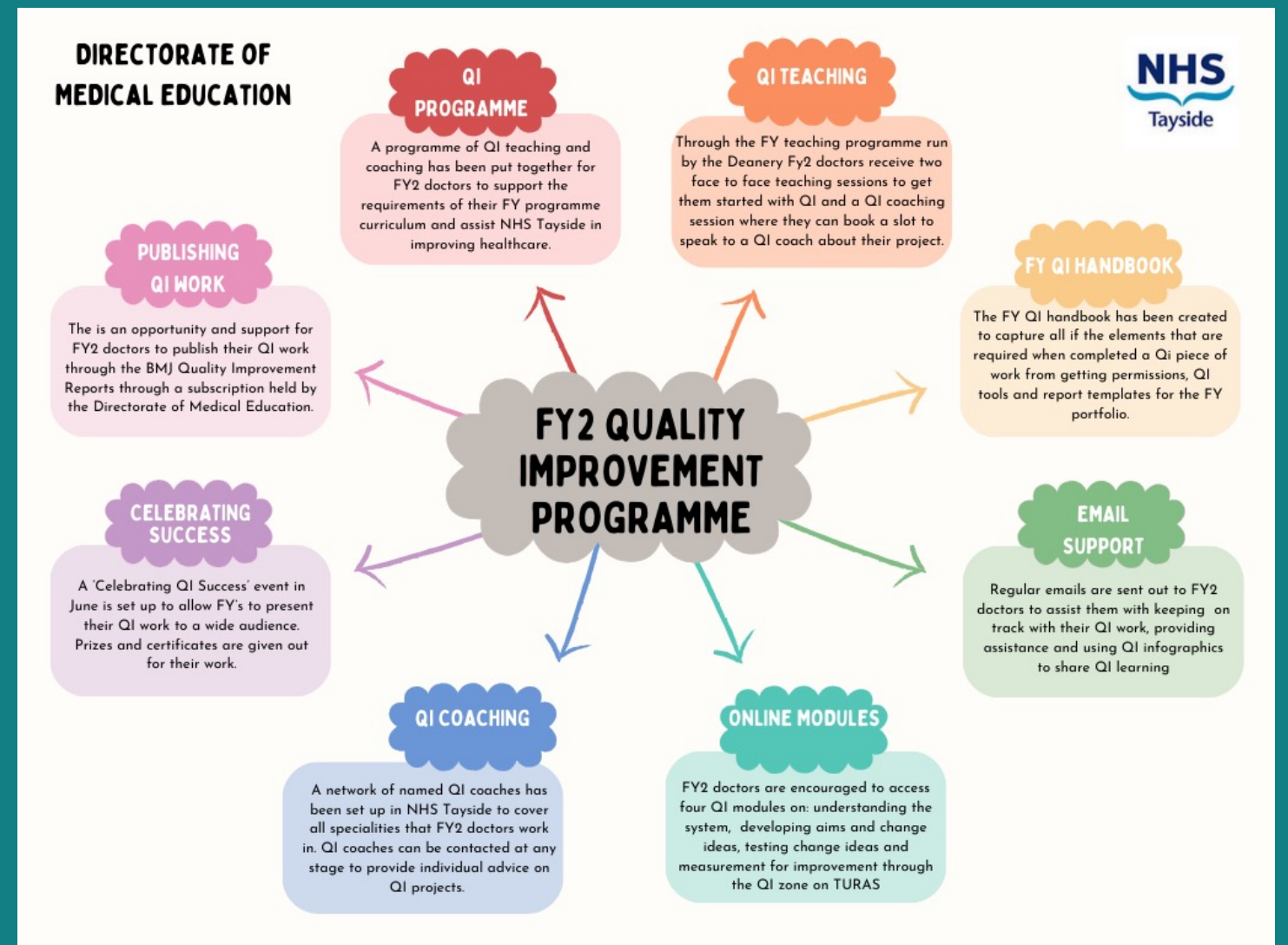


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Background

Foundation Year 2 (FY2) doctors in the UK are required to show evidence of Quality Improvement (QI) work which is part of the FY curriculum to successfully complete their Annual Review of Competency Progression (ARCP). However, historically evidenced work tends to encompass an audit rather than true QI work and trainees are often disengaged with the process^{1,2}. In collaboration with the Directorate of Medical Education a range of teaching, QI resources and coaching has been developed to improve the QI experience for FY2s working in NHS Tayside.



Mentimeter word cloud created by asking the FY2 cohort to describe how they feel about QI, November 2023

Problems

A survey of the FY2 cohort revealed that there was poor understanding of how to collect baseline data and how to use outcome, process and balance measures.

Trainees also felt their introduction to QI came too late to allow them to forward plan for their QI projects.

Moreover, the general attitude towards QI was negative and complicated by lack of time to carry out QI work and concerns about ethical and Caldicott approval.

Tests of Change

As part of FY2 core teaching, sessions were arranged to discuss what QI is, approvals for QI projects, how to use the appropriate methodologies and how to choose a realistic QI project. QI coaching sessions were set up and resources updated.

Attendees were sign-posted to TURAS e-learning modules, the Tayside FY QI handbook, QI infographics and access to a network of QI coaches across NHS Tayside for QI advice and support. All this information is hosted on the online Junior Doctors Handbook. The QI handbook has also been modified to be more user friendly and guide future FY2s in health care quality improvement.

The Future

An introductory session will be delivered to the current FY1 cohort to provide an overview of QI earlier in the curriculum and maximise QI opportunities in FY2. Current FY2s have found the QI coaching sessions particularly useful to ask specific questions about methodologies, data collection, measures and how to write a QI report. This feedback will be shared with coaches to help develop their role. Finally, a celebration event of the QI work undertaken by the current FY2 cohort will be held in June to share experiences and outcomes with each other and staff across the service.