

Summary Minutes from the 272nd meeting of the Medical Council 2nd and 3rd March 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT

Professor Kieran Murphy (President)
Dr Anna Clarke (Vice-President)
Dr Richard Brennan
Mr Brendan Broderick
Ms Katharine Bulbulia
Professor Gerard Bury
Mrs Anne Carrigy
Professor Anthony Cunningham
Dr Pauline Kane
Dr Deirdre Madden
Professor John McAdoo

Professor Damien McLoughlin
Mr Frank McManus
Dr John Monaghan
Ms Margaret Murphy
Ms Marie Murray
Professor Diarmuid O'Donoghue
Dr David O'Keeffe
Dr John O'Mullane

APOLOGIES

Mr Jon Billings
Dr Regina Connolly
Dr Daniel O'Hare
Professor William Powderly
Professor James Slevin

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms Caroline Spillane (CEO)
Mr Marcus Balfe (Head of Finance)
Mr William Kennedy (Head of Professional Standards & Legal Adviser)
Dr Anne Keane (Head of Education & Training)
Mr Philip Brady (Head of Registration)
Ms Lisa Molloy (Secretary to Council & Head of Corporate Services)
Dr Paul Kavanagh (Head of Professional Competence)
Mr Iain Mathews (Finance)
Ms Ciara McMorrow (Corporate Services)
Mr John Sidebottom (Professional Standards)
Ms Finola O'Dwyer (Professional Standards)
Mr Seamus Woulfe S.C.

Item 1 - Minutes of the 271st meeting held on 18th January 2011

1.1 The minutes of the 271st meeting held on 18th January 2011 were agreed and signed.

1.2 The summary minutes of the 271st meeting were approved for publication on the Council website.

Committees and Working Groups

Professional Development Committee

1. Council reviewed the inspection forms from nine completed intern clinical training sites visits and approved the sites accordingly.
2. Council approved the proposal to incorporate the Basic Medical Qualifications, Clinical Training Sites and Postgraduate Training Working Groups into two new Working Groups.
3. Council noted the list of approved higher qualifications for exemption from the PRES which will be available on the Medical Council website.

Standards in Practice Committee

1. In considering a Legal Opinion on the issue of English Language Testing, Council again expressed its concern for patient safety and emphasised the Medical Council remit to protect the public. The content of the Opinion was outlined and noted the advice that amendments to both MPA 2007 and S.I. 139 are desirable and necessary in order for Council to address the issue of English language competency and testing.

Audit Committee

1. The establishment of the ICT Sub-Committee was noted.
2. The approved Financial Statements for 2009 were noted by Council.
3. The Croke Park Agreement and Employment Control Framework was noted by Council.

Professional Competence Committee

1. The Medical Council approved the fee structure to be levied by bodies for the purpose of enrolling registrants in professional competence schemes. This fee structure will be reviewed following a 12 month period.

Nominations Sub-Committee

1. The Council approved the nomination of Ms Mary Culliton to the following Committees:
 - Professional Competence Committee
 - Fitness to Practise Committee
 - Standards in Practice Committee

President's Business

1. The President advised Council members of Ms Mary Culliton's resignation and informed Council of the proposed appointment of Mr Ian Carter to the Medical Council as her replacement.
2. The Communications and Research Working Group has been disbanded and an internal group has been established comprising members of the Executive and Council.

CEO's Business

CEO's Report

1. Council considered the Report of the CEO which provided updates on a number of operational matters.
2. Council noted the first draft of the Annual Report 2010.

Date of next meeting

Council members were advised that the next scheduled Council meeting will take place at 08:30hrs on Thursday 14th April 2011.