

Summary Minutes of the Medical Council meeting 14th and 15th September 2011

A meeting of the Medical Council was held at 12:30pm on Wednesday 14th September and at 8:30am on Thursday 15th September 2011 in Kingram House, Kingram Place, Dublin 2.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Professor Kieran Murphy (President)	Mr Frank McManus
Dr Richard Brennan	Dr John Monaghan
Mr Brendan Broderick	Ms Marie Murray
Ms Katharine Bulbulia	Ms Margaret Murphy
Professor Gerard Bury	Professor Diarmuid O'Donoghue
Dr Anna Clarke (Vice-President)	Dr Danny O'Hare
Dr Regina Connolly	Dr David O'Keeffe
Dr Pauline Kane	Dr John O'Mullane
Dr Deirdre Madden	Professor William Powderly
Professor John McAadoo	

APOLOGIES

Mrs Anne Carrigy
Professor Anthony Cunningham
Professor Damien McLoughlin

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms Caroline Spillane (CEO)
Mr Marcus Balfe (Head of Finance)
Dr Anne Keane (Head of Education & Training)
Mr William Kennedy (Head of Professional Standards and Legal Adviser)
Dr Paul Kavanagh (Head of Professional Competence)
Ms Lisa Molloy (Head of Corporate Services & HR and Secretary to Council)
Mr Jim McDermott (Head of ICT & Operations)
Ms Ciara McMorrough (Corporate Services)
Ms Finola O'Dwyer (Professional Standards)
Mr Eoin Keehan (Registration)
Mr John Sidebottom (Professional Standards)

Note:

The President noted that there was a quorum of Council members present and, in noting that no declarations of interest were brought to the attention of the meeting, duly convened the meeting.

Minutes

Minutes of the Meetings held on 13th and 18th July 2011

- 1.1** The minutes of the meetings of the Medical Council held on 13th and 18th July 2011 were agreed and signed.
- 1.2** The summary minutes of the meetings of the Medical Council held on 11th, 13th and 18th July 2011 were approved for publication on the Medical Council website subject to the following amendment:

13th July 2011 - Standards in Practice Committee *"Council considered the report of the Adjudication Group into Intern Training Equivalence under section 46(b)(iv) of the MPA 2007 and approved the recommendations."*

Committees and Working Groups

Professional Development Committee

1. Council noted the results of the seven examinations for the Supervised Division, held between 2nd and 12th August, with 236 candidates passing and 30 failing the examinations.
2. In discussing the possibility of a second round of examinations, Council agreed that future examinations needed to be constructed based on experience and feedback from the August examinations and that a timeline for examinations would be set by Council and communicated to the HSE.
3. The draft '*Guidelines for Employers of medical practitioners registered in the Supervised Division of the Register*' were approved by Council.

Standards in Practice Committee

1. Council approved an application for entry to the Supervised Division of the Register in the specialty of Emergency Medicine on the demonstration of the required training and experience.
2. Council approved the Appeal Board report and refused one application for entry into the Specialist Division of the Register in the specialty of Anaesthesia.
3. Council refused entry to the Register of Medical Practitioners in respect of applications from four doctors.
4. Council accepted the recommendations for the removal of conditions from the registration in respect of four medical practitioners and attached conditions to the registration of one registered medical practitioner.

Audit Committee

The disbandment of the Corporate Governance Working Group, following completion of the series of corporate governance documentation, was approved by Council and the remaining items were noted.

Nominations Sub-Committee

The report of the Nominations Sub-Committee was reviewed by Council and the following nominations approved:

Dr Mary Sheehan - Professional Competence Committee
Ms Melanie Pine - Fitness to Practise Committee

The following nominations to the Teams for Medical School, Training Bodies and Training Site assessments were noted by Council:

Dr Josanne Holloway
Dr Griselda Cooper

President's Business

Legal Services Tender

The recommendation of the Legal Services Tender Project team to enter into a five year contract with McDowell Purcell Solicitors was approved.

CEO's Business

Council members noted the CEO report which provided an update to members on a number of operational matters including:

The impact of the introduction of the new Supervised Division on all Sections of the Medical Council Executive and on the Business Plan 2011 (BP). The CEO confirmed that the mid-year review shows Council business is generally on track to achieve the outcomes identified in the BP.

The CEO advised that approximately 130 doctors had been registered on the Supervised Division to date which was a significant achievement within the time-lines available. Members were informed of a meeting on 14th September between the Council, the Department of Health and the HSE Central to this discussion was the matter of outstanding documentation from the HSE and candidate doctors, to allow for registration to progress. Council members were advised that the speedy registration of doctors to the Supervised Division was a matter of priority for the Minister.

Any other Competent Business

The President advised that members of Council were acutely aware of the pressures on Council staff arising from the work associated with registration in the Supervised Division and the impact this had on all aspects of Council business. He congratulated the CEO and staff on their continued efforts in this regard.

Date of next meeting

Council members were advised that the next scheduled Council meeting will take place at 08:30hrs on Tuesday 25th October 2011.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 16:24hrs on Thursday 15th September 2011.

President

Date