

## **Summary Minutes of the Medical Council meeting 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012**

A meeting of the Medical Council was held at 12:30hrs on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2012 and at 08:30hrs on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012 in Kingram House, Kingram Place, Dublin 2.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Professor Kieran Murphy (President)  
Dr Richard Brennan  
Mr Brendan Broderick  
Ms Katharine Bulbulia  
Professor Gerard Bury  
Mrs Anne Carrigy  
Dr Anna Clarke (Vice-President)  
Ms Marie Kehoe  
Professor John McAdoo  
Professor Damian McLoughlin  
Mr Frank McManus

Ms Marie Murray  
Ms Margaret Murphy  
Professor Diarmuid O'Donoghue  
Dr Daniel O'Hare  
Dr David O'Keeffe  
Professor William Powderly  
Dr Michael Ryan

### **APOLOGIES**

Dr Regina Connolly  
Dr Pauline Kane  
Dr Deidre Madden  
Dr John Monaghan  
Dr John O'Mullane

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Ms Caroline Spillane (CEO)  
Mr Marcus Balfe (Head of Finance)  
Dr Anne Keane (Head of Education & Training)  
Mr William Kennedy (Director of Regulation and Legal Adviser)  
Dr Paul Kavanagh (Director of Professional Development and Practice)  
Ms Lisa Molloy (Secretary to Council, Head of Corporate Services & HR)  
Mr Jim McDermott (Head of ICT & Operations)  
Mr Philip Brady (Head of Registration)  
Ms Ciara McMorrough (Corporate Services)  
Ms Jan Fitzpatrick (Corporate Services)  
Mr Diarmuid Coen (Professional Standards)  
Mr John Sidebottom (Professional Standards)  
Ms Patricia Dillon (Senior Counsel)

**Note:**

A Private Session was taken prior to the commencement of the Council meeting. Following completion of this session, the Council meeting was formally commenced.

The President noted that there was a quorum of Council members present and that no conflicts of interest had been declared.

**Minutes**

1. The minutes of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2012 were agreed and signed.
2. The summary minutes of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2012 were also agreed for publication to the website.

**President's Business**

1. The Speaker and Media Engagements policies were noted by Council and members were reminded that if approached individually, the Communications and Research Group should be notified in accordance with the policies.
2. The President advised members that Dr Clarke had resigned as chair of the Standards in Practice Committee and noted that Professor Bury would replace her as Chair of the Committee.

**CEO's Business**

3. Council members noted the CEO report which provided an update to members on a number of matters of strategic, policy and operational significance.
4. The Fitness to Practise Committee procedures were noted by Council and will be published on the Medical Council website in line with Council's policy on transparency of the Council's processes.
5. The CEO advised that the draft Annual Report 2011 would be the first full year's report against the strategic objectives of the Medical Council. This report includes a summary of key activities for 2011, the governance structures in addition to mandatory reporting requirements in the form of the financial statements.

The draft Annual Report 2011 demonstrating the Medical Council's work, linking to the Business Plan and Statement of Strategy, was approved for issue in print format to the Minister for Health. Council noted that the wider publication will be in e-book format on the Council's website in due course.

6. The appointment of Dr Patricia Cunningham as the Medical Council representative to the Board of the Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland was noted by Council.

## **Committees and Working Groups**

### **Professional Development Committee**

1. Council reviewed the report of the Direct Entry Accreditation Visit to UCD which was approved by Council as per the following terms:
  - a. That the University College Dublin's Six Year Medical Programme be approved for a period of five years under the terms of Section 88(2)(a)(i)(I) of the Medical Practitioners Act 2007;
  - b. The University College Dublin be approved for a period of five years under Section 88(2)(a)(II) of the Medical Practitioners Act 2007 as the body which may deliver that programme.

A summary report is to be prepared for publication on the Medical Council's website.

2. Council reviewed the report of the Direct Entry Accreditation Visit to RCSI which was approved by Council as per the following terms:
  - a. The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland's six year Medical Programme be approved for a period of five years under the terms of Section 88(2)(a)(i)(I) of the Medical Practitioners Act 2007;
  - b. The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland be approved for a period of five years under Section 88(2)(a)(II) of the Medical Practitioners Act 2007 as the body which may deliver that the Basic programme.

A summary report is to be prepared for publication on the Medical Council's website.

### **Standards in Practice Committee**

1. The Council approved the recommendation of the SiPC in relation to the removal of conditions from the Registration of two doctors.
2. Council accepted the Report of decisions to refuse Registration where the 12 week appeal window has expired and directed that the doctors referred to in the report be advised accordingly.
3. The Guide to the Health Sub-Committee was approved by Council for publication to the website.

### **Audit Committee**

1. The draft Annual Accounts and Financial Statements 2011 were approved by Council.

### **Professional Competence Committee**

1. The publication *What to expect during a Performance Assessment - Guidelines for doctors* was noted by Council.
2. The publication *Medical Council's performance procedures and activities - Information for Employers and the Workplace* was noted by Council.
3. The publication *Medical Council's performance procedures and activities - Information for Patients* was noted by Council.

### **Nominations Sub-Committee**

The following recommendation of the Nominations Sub-Committee was approved by Council:

*Professional Competence Committee*

Dr Mary Holohan

The approval by the Sub-Committee of the following nominations was noted by Council:

*Health Sub-Committee*

Professor James Lucey

*Action Planning and Remediation Working Group*

Professor Sean Tierney

Mr Bryan Harty

*Teams for Medical School, Training Bodies and Training site assessments*

Dr Peter Selby

### **Date of next meeting**

Council members were advised that the next scheduled Council meeting will take place at 08:30hrs on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2012. There being no further business the meeting concluded at 17:16hrs.

