

## **Summary Minutes from the 268<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Medical Council 19<sup>th</sup> October 2010**

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Professor Kieran Murphy (President)	Professor Damien McLoughlin
Dr Anna Clarke (Vice-President)	Mr Frank McManus
Mr Jon Billings	Dr John Monaghan
Dr Richard Brennan	Ms Margaret Murphy
Mr Brendan Broderick	Ms Marie Murray
Ms Katharine Bulbulia	Professor Diarmuid O'Donoghue
Professor Gerard Bury	Dr Daniel O'Hare
Mrs Anne Carrigy	Dr David O'Keeffe
Dr Regina Connolly	Dr John O'Mullane
Ms Mary Culliton	Professor William Powderly
Professor Anthony Cunningham	
Professor Paul Finucane	

### **APOLOGIES**

Dr Pauline Kane  
Dr Deirdre Madden  
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)  
Ms Úna O'Rourke (Head of Registration)  
Ms Lisa Molloy (Secretary to Council & Head of Corporate Services)  
Mr Iain Mathews (Finance)  
Dr Paul Kavanagh (Head of Professional Competence)  
Ms Ciara McMorrow (Corporate Services)  
Mr John Sidebottom (Professional Standards)  
Mr Charles Meenan S.C.

### **Minutes of the 267<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> September 2010**

1. The minutes of the 267<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> September 2010 were agreed and signed.

2. The summary minutes of the 267<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved for publication on the Council website.

### **Matters arising from the 267<sup>th</sup> meetings**

1. The date of 21<sup>st</sup> January 2011 for the Council Annual Dinner was noted.

### **Committees and Working Groups**

#### **Professional Development**

1. Council approved the Guidelines on Ethical Standards and Behaviour for Medical Students.
2. The establishment of a PRES Sub-Committee was approved subject to additional members representing the public interest and doctors in training (who would participate except when the Sub-Committee was acting as an Examinations Board).
3. The discussion paper on the implementation of the Part 11 Professional Competence schemes was noted.
4. The draft Rules and Standards document under Part 11 of the MPA 2007 was approved for public consultation. The Medical Council was informed that a public consultation will be completed by December.
5. The proposal by the Irish College of Ophthalmology (ICO) for a Registrar Training Programme was approved by Council.
6. Council endorsed the strategy of progression and completion of the inspection of clinical sites for the purposes of intern training.
7. Council approved the Guidelines on Medical Education and Training for Interns.

#### **Standards in Practice Committee**

1. Council approved a number of recommendations by the Committee in relation to practitioners including:
  - (a) An application for entry in the Specialist Division of the Register
  - (b) The refusal of 6 applications for entry to the Register

#### **Audit Committee**

1. Council approved the report of the Audit Committee which provided information on a number of matters including:

- (a) The Management Accounts for the 8 months up to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2010
- (b) The Procurement Plan 2010
- (c) A standard fee structure for accreditation which was approved by Council

### **President's Business**

1. Council noted that Professor Finucane's 2½ year rotation as a Medical School representative on the Medical Council was due to expire. The Medical Council thanked Professor Finucane for his extremely effective contributions to the Council both as a Council member and as Chair of the Professional Competence Schemes Working Group.
2. The following IHCA motion endorsed at their Annual Conference 2010 was noted and welcomed by Council:

*"That we, the members of the IHCA, reiterate our support for and determination to fulfil our obligations to our patients as set out in the Medical Council's Guide to Ethical Conduct at this time of economic difficulty and reducing health funding"*

3. The Council agreed to become a signatory to the Patient Safety First Initiative.

### **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 reviewed the draft Key Performance Indicator document and gave its approval for the proposed measure, targets and timelines to be used in monitoring the implementation of the Statement of Strategy and Annual Business Plans.

### **International Matters**

1. Council noted the Berlin Statement to which the Medical Council is a co-signatory.

### **Any other business**

1. The issue of testing English language skills of interns was raised and members were informed that this is an employment matter. Council commended and fully supported the introduction by the HSE of requirements for interns in relation to English Language skills.

Council noted the measures taken in the Annual Declaration, Registration Certificate and Ethical Guide to promote the checking of English language skills by employers. It was agreed that this issue should be included in the next edition of the e-newsletter for members' information and communicated to recruitment agencies.