

Summary Minutes of the Medical Council meeting

28th & 29th January 2014

A meeting of the Medical Council was held at 12:30hrs on Tuesday 28th January and Wednesday 29th January 2014 in Kingram House, Kingram Place, Dublin 2.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Professor Freddie Wood (President)	Mr Sean Hurley
Dr John Barragry	Professor Alan Johnson
Dr Anthony Breslin	Professor Mary Leader
Ms Katharine Bulbulia	Councillor Sally Mulready
Mr Declan Carey	Ms Margaret Murphy
Ms Anne Carrigy	Mr John Nisbet
Dr Sean Curran	Professor Colm O'Herlihy
Dr Audrey Dillon (Vice President)	Ms Marie Kehoe O'Sullivan
Dr Rita Doyle	Ms Cornelia Stuart
Ms Mary Duff	Dr Consilia Walsh
Professor Fidelma Dunne	Ms Catherine Whelan
Dr Bairbre Golden	
Dr Ruairi Hanley	

Apologies

Dr Michael Ryan

In attendance

Ms Caroline Spillane (CEO)
Mr William Kennedy, (Director of Regulation)
Dr Paul Kavanagh (Director of Professional Development and Practice)
Ms Emma Killeen (Director of Finance and Administration)
Ms Wendy Kennedy (Finance Manager)
Mr Philip Brady (Head of Registration)
Dr Anne Keane (Head of Education & Training)
Mr Jim McDermott (Head of ICT)
Ms Una O'Rourke (Head of Strategic Project Management)
Ms Niamh Muldoon (Solicitor, Regulation)
Ms Aisling Malone (Solicitor, Regulation)
Ms Jan Fitzpatrick (Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services)
Ms Lorna Farren, (Communications Manager)
Mr John Sidebottom (Senior Executive Officer, Regulation)
Ms Aoife Fitzsimons (Executive Officer, ICT)

Note:

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

Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 11th and 12th December were agreed and signed.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

Council was reminded that the President had agreed to correspond with the Chairs of the newly established Hospital Groups. Letters requesting meetings had been prepared but as the groups were still in establishment phase contact details for some were not yet available. Letters will issue to all Chairs in the shortest possible timeframe.

The President reminded all Council members to complete their Ethics in Public Office Interest Statement.

CEO's Business

Council members approved the CEO report which provided an update to members on a number of strategic, policy and operational matters The CEO report included the following:

- An update on the Ministerial approval, publication and launch of the Statement of Strategy 2014 – 2018
- The CEO advised Council that the web stats included in the report highlight that the recent updates to the website have considerably improved the responsiveness of the website to the needs of users.
- Council was advised that there are now two new initiatives, the first one being a new Education and Training area of the website which went live in December with a preview provided to key stakeholders in advance of a full public launch in January.
- Council was updated on the planned Tobacco Free Campus which will be implemented in Q1 2014.
- Council noted that the Minister has consented to the recognition of Intensive Care Medicine and Neonatology Medicine as medical specialties.
- Council was updated on the forthcoming 'Your Training Counts' Trainee Experience Survey which is due to go live in 2014.
- The President commended Ms Carrigy on the progress of the complaints process and the timeframe for the processing of complaints being reduced. Ms Carrigy thanked the Executive on their management of the complaints process in an efficient manner.

President's Business

- The President thanked Council members for attending the training session that morning and advised that further training would be available in May/June 2014.

- Council was advised of the correspondence received regarding the proposed educational programme on Hand Hygiene. It was agreed that this is not a regulatory matter and would not be appropriate for the Medical Council to comment.

Committees and Working Groups

Ethics and Professionalism Committee (EPC)

Council considered and accepted the Report which included the following items:

- The chairperson of the Ethics & Professionalism Committee outlined that the new wording of paragraph 21 would be incorporated into a document to appear on the Medical Council website and in the Newsletter.

Registration and Continuing Practice Committee (RCPC)

Dr Breslin presented the report to Council of the RCPC meeting which was held on 16th January 2014 which included the following:

- Council was informed of a plan to move from issue of hard-copy decorative certificates with annual retention of registration, to issuance of an annual formal notice of registration retention in soft-copy.
- Council considered reports regarding a number of doctors and accepted the recommendations of the Committee.

Council approved the report of the Registration and Continuing Practice Committee

Nominations and Development Committee

Council was updated on the recent nominations to the NDC at its meeting of 21st January 2014:

Multi Source Feedback Working Group (MSFWG)

- Dr Sean Tierney
- Dr Allys Guérandel
- Dr Colm Henry
- Dr Miriam Kennedy
- Dr Ellen O Sullivan

Professional Competence Assessor Sub Committee

- Dr Antoinette D'Alton

Preliminary Proceedings Committee (PPC)

- Mr Timothy Ryan
- Dr Patrick O'Carroll

Registration & Continuing Practice Committee (RCPC)

- Dr Niamh Macey
- Ms Lorraine Horgan

ICT Sub-Committee (ICTSC)

- Ms Eileen Fitzgerald
- Mr Declan McKibben
- Mr Paul Hamill
- Dr Ian Callanan

Council approved that Mr John Nisbet to become Chair of the ICT Sub-Committee. Council also noted that Dr Ruairi Hanley and Mr Seán Hurley had agreed to become members of the Fitness to Practise Committee.

Council approved the report of the Nominations and Development Committee

Health Committee

Council considered reports regarding a number of doctors and accepted the recommendations of the Committee.

Audit, Strategy and Risk Committee (ASRC)

Mr Hurley presented the report of the Audit, Strategy and Risk Committee which included the following:

- Council approved the recommendations of the Committee regarding the appointment of a new Chief Risk Officer.
- The CEO presented to Council the final draft Business Plan 2014
- Council was advised of a proposed increase to the Registration fee. It was noted that the Registration fees were increased modestly in 2013, the first increase in 5 years. It was noted that the increase did not apply to Interns and transitional Interns.
- Council noted that the four recommended nominees were approved by the NDC and subsequently by Council.
- Council approved the Final Statement of Strategy 2014-2018.

The report of the Audit, Strategy and Risk Committee was approved by Council.

Date & Time of next meeting

Council noted that the next scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday 27th March at 12:30hrs & Wednesday 28th March 2014 at 08:30hrs