

## **Meeting No.18 of 2014**

### **MEDICAL COUNCIL**

The 321<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Medical Council was held at 12:30hrs on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December and Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2014 in Kingram House, Kingram Place, Dublin 2.

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Professor Freddie Wood (President)  
Dr John Barragry  
Dr Anthony Breslin  
Ms Katharine Bulbulia  
Mr Declan Carey  
Ms Anne Carrigy (by video link)  
Dr Audrey Dillon (Vice President)  
Dr Rita Doyle  
Ms Mary Duff  
Professor Fidelma Dunne  
Dr Bairbre Golden  
Dr Ruairi Hanley  
Mr Sean Hurley

Professor Alan Johnson  
Professor Colm O'Herlihy  
Ms Marie Kehoe O'Sullivan  
Professor Mary Leader  
Councillor Sally Mulready  
Ms Margaret Murphy  
Mr John Nisbet  
Dr Michael Ryan  
Ms Cornelia Stuart  
Dr Consilia Walsh  
Ms Catherine Whelan

#### **In attendance – full meeting**

Ms Caroline Spillane (CEO)  
Mr William Kennedy (Director of Regulation)  
Ms Lisa Molloy (Secretary to Council)  
Ms Jan Fitzpatrick (Corporate Governance & Council Manager)

#### **In attendance – for the relevant parts of the meeting**

Mr Philip Brady (Head of Registration)  
Ms Lorna Farren (Communications Manager)  
Ms Jane Horan (Regulation)  
Dr Paul Kavanagh (Director of Professional Development and Practice)  
Dr Anne Keane (Head of Education & Training)  
Ms Wendy Kennedy (Finance Manager)  
Mr Paul Lyons (Senior Executive Officer, Education & Training)  
Mr Jim Mc Dermott (Head of ICT)  
Ms Aoife Mellett (Solicitor, Regulation)  
Ms Niamh Muldoon (Solicitor, Regulation)  
Ms Úna O'Rourke (Head of Strategic Projects)  
Mr John Sidebottom (Senior Executive Officer, Regulation)

#### **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.

## **Item 1 – Minutes**

- 1.1 Minutes of the 319<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> November and 320<sup>th</sup> meeting held on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2014 were agreed and signed.

## **Item 2 – Matters Arising from the Minutes**

There were no matters arising from the Minutes of the 319<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## **Item 3 – CEO’s Business**

### **3.1 CEO’s Report and Balanced Scorecard**

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:

Council was advised that research with members of the public and the medical profession to measure attitudes to medical professionalism and confidence in the Medical Council has concluded. It was noted that this was an interesting piece of work and highlights the progress made since 2011. This will be published later in 2015.

Council was informed that the draft Guidelines on Student Professionalism and Fitness to Proceed was the subject of a stakeholder consultation and useful feedback was received. It was noted that the guidance will be launched in 2015.

The CEO advised Council that positive feedback has been received on the Education and Training Symposium, specifically on the extremely well received speakers.

Council was updated in regards to the successful projects under its Medical Education research Grant, in conjunction with the HRB and the HSE-MET. An award scheme in conjunction with INMED will be launched in 2015.

Council noted that the first report from the Your Training Counts Survey was published on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2014.

Council noted the correspondence between the CEO and the Department of Health regarding the Professional Indemnity Bill and positive progress made by the Executive in relation to the legislative requirements therein.

Council approved the report of the CEO.

## **Item 4 - President’s Business**

### **4.1 OPOS Declaration 2014**

The President reminded Council members of their responsibility to comply with completion of the 2014 OPOS declaration forms.

An additional matter was raised by Dr Breslin highlighting the ongoing voluntary work of Irish Health Professionals in the countries affected by the Ebola virus. It was agreed that the President would write on behalf of Council highlighting Council's gratitude and support for the work they do.

## **Item 5 – Registration and Continuing Practice Committee (RCPC)**

### **5.1 Report of the Registration and Continuing Practice Committee held on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2014**

Dr Breslin presented the report of the Registration and Continuing Practice Committee, held on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2014. Dr Breslin thanked the Committee members and the Executive for their work throughout the year, and highlighted the following items from the report:

#### **Removal of Conditions from Registration**

Council considered the report of the Monitoring Group concerning the compliance of doctors with the conditions attached to their registration.

#### **Registration Review Hearing**

Council accepted the recommendation of the Committee that a doctor be granted registration on the Specialist Division on the basis that the doctor meets the standards required.

## **Item 6 – Nominations and Development Committee (NDC)**

### **6.1 Report of the Nominations and Development Committee held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2014**

The President presented the report of the Nominations and Development Committee. Council approved the recommendation of the Committee to appoint the following nominees:

#### **Quality Monitoring Sub Committee**

Mr Joe Duignan

#### **E&T Assessor Panel**

Mr Michael Kavanagh

#### **Medical Council Learning and Development Day 2015**

Council was advised of the proposed topics for inclusion on the agenda for the Learning & Development Day in April 2015 which will focus on policy development in a number of areas.

#### **Final Draft Equality & Diversity Policy**

Council approved the final version of the Equality and Diversity Policy.

## **Item 7 – Ethics & Professionalism Committee (EPC)**

### **7.1 Report of the Ethics & Professionalism Committee meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2014**

The report of the Ethics and Professionalism Committee meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2014 was presented by the Vice President.

#### **Programme of Work**

Council noted that the Committee has agreed a schedule of work for 2015 and will present a draft new Guide for approval for public consultation, in due course.

## **Item 8 – Health Committee (HC)**

### **8.1 Report of the Health Committee meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2014**

Dr Doyle presented the report of the Health Committee meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2014 and highlighted a number of items including:

Council approved the recommendation of the Committee regarding the release of 1 practitioner from an undertaking not to engage in the practice of medicine.

Council noted that 7 review sessions were conducted by the various teams in respect of an equal number of practitioners, to include the practitioner referenced above regarding release from an undertaking.

Council noted that positive health reports were received and reviewed in respect to 3 practitioners and that review sessions are scheduled for the 3 practitioners in the coming month.

## **Item 9 – Education, Training & Professional Development Committee (ETPDC)**

### **9.1 Report of Education, Training & Professional Development Committee meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2014**

The report of the Education, Training & Professional Development Committee held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2014 was presented to Council.

#### **9.1.1 Appendix 2 – Report of the Visit to UCC/AUCMS**

Council was presented with the report on the inspection of University College Cork which took place on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2014. Council approved the recommendation of the Committee that:

- (i) The University College Cork's Direct Entry Medical Programme should continue to be approved until 2017.
- (ii) The University College Cork should continue to be approved until 2017 as the body which may deliver that programme.

### **9.1.2 Appendix 3- Report of the visit to NUIG/AUCMS**

Council was presented with the report on the inspection of National University of Ireland, Galway which took place on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2014. Council approved the Committee's recommendations that:

1. The National University of Ireland, Galway's five year programme of basic medical education and six year programme of basic medical education and training should be approved until 2017.
2. That the National University of Ireland, Galway, should be approved until 2017 as the body which may deliver that programme.

### **10.1.3 Appendix 4 – Education & Training Strategy**

Dr Kavanagh provided an overview of the education and training strategy document which has been considered at sub-committee and committee level, and which has benefitted from a broad stakeholder consultation. The strategy provides a high-level framework which will guide Council's activities in the area of education and training over the next five years. Dr Kavanagh was praised for the document, and following a proposal by the Vice President, seconded by Ms Walsh, Council approved the Education & Training Strategy document. The document will be formally launched in 2015.

### **10.1.7 Appendix 1 – Report of the inspection visit to RCSI Bahrain**

Council was presented with the report on the inspection of RCSI Bahrain which took place on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2014. Council approved the recommendation of the Committee that:

1. The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland Bahrain's six year Medical Programme should be approved for a period of five years.
2. The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland Bahrain should be approved for a period of five years as the body which may deliver the Basic programme.

### **Item 11 – Media Log**

#### **11.1 Media Coverage Log covering period: October – December 2014**

This item was noted by Council

### **Item 12 – Any other Business**

The President wished both Council members and staff a Happy Christmas.

**Item 13 – Date and Time of next meeting**

Council noted that the next scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2015 at 12:30hrs & and Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2015 at 08:30hrs.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 16.00hrs.