

## Summary Minutes of the Medical Council meeting

5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> November 2014

A meeting of the Medical Council was held at 1:30hrs on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2014 in Kingram House, Kingram Place, Dublin 2.

### MEMBERS PRESENT

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

### Apologies

Ms Cornelia Stuart

### In attendance

Ms Caroline Spillane (CEO)  
Mr William Kennedy (Director of Regulation)  
Dr Paul Kavanagh (Director of Professional Development and Practice)  
Dr Anne Keane (Head of Education & Training)  
Ms Lisa Molloy (Secretary to Council)  
Mr Jim McDermott (Head of ICT)  
Mr Philip Brady (Head of Registration)  
Ms Wendy Kennedy (Finance Manager)  
Ms Niamh Muldoon (Solicitor, Regulation)  
Ms Aoife Mellet (Solicitor, Regulation)  
Ms Jan Fitzpatrick (Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services)  
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.

### Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> September were agreed and signed.

## **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:

- The business planning for 2015 is currently underway throughout the organisation and the business plan and budget is being drafted for submission to the Audit, Strategy and Risk Committee.
- Council was advised that Business Process Improvements (BPI) have commenced within the Professional Standards and customer service areas.
- The CEO updated Council on "Your Training Counts" and advised that the first volume of the report on 2014 data, which focuses on the learning environment, is being finalising for publication by year end. The Education and Training Symposium will take place on December 8th in Dublin and will focus on supporting students and trainees in difficulty. The findings of Your Training Counts will also be launched as part of the event.

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

Professor O'Herlihy presented the report of the Education, Training & Professional Development Committee held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2014.

- **Basic Medical Education and Training**  
Council noted the Committee's update on recent undergraduate medical education accreditation activities. RCSI Bahrain was inspected on 13th and 14th October 2014 and University College Cork and National University of Ireland, Galway were inspected on 20th and 21st October 2014 respectively.
- **Postgraduate Medical Education and Training**  
Council noted the update on the current programme of accreditation of postgraduate training programmes, in relation to: Respiratory Medicine and Geriatric Medicine (ICHMT/RCPI), and Emergency Medicine, Trauma & Orthopaedic Surgery, and Ophthalmic Surgery (RCSI).  
  
Council approved the Committee's recommendation to the withdrawal of approval from Allianza University College of Medical Sciences (AUCMS) and the joint programme it delivered with University College Cork and National University of Ireland Galway, under Section 88 (2)(a)(i) of the MPA 2007.
- **Draft policy on anatomical returns**  
Council approved the 'Returns Policy for Institutions Licenced by the Medical Council to Practise Anatomy in the State'.
- **MCI- INMED Awards proposals**

Council approved the establishment of a partnership between INMED and Medical Council in the award of small grants for research in medical education (RIME).

### **Registration and Continuing Practice Committee (RCPC)**

Dr Breslin presented the report of the Registration and Continuing Practice Committee.

Council accepted the recommendation of the Committee that Council becomes the complainant against the 13 doctors listed in Appendix 1 of the report, in accordance with its powers under S91(6) of the MPA 2007. These are doctors, who despite renewing registration with the Medical Council for 2014/2015, have not responded to the audit requirements under Section 94(2) of the Medical Practitioners Act 2007.

Council was updated of the activities of the Monitoring Group and noted that 25 medical practitioners currently have conditions attached to their name on the Register. Council commended the work of the Monitoring Group and the Executive.

Council accepted the recommendation of the Committee to refuse registration to the applicants listed, as the window for the applicant to seek a Review / Appeal of the RCPC decision to refuse registration has expired.

### **Nominations and Development Committee (NDC)**

The President presented the report of the Nominations and Development Committee.

Council approved the recommendation of the Committee to appoint Mrs Kathleen Beggan to the Preliminary Proceedings Committee (PPC)

Council approved the recommendation of the Committee to appoint Dr Máirin Boland to the Registration Review Panel.

### **Learning & Development**

Council noted the half day Section 60 Training Session which was delivered by Ms Caroline Conroy of La Touche Training on the 5<sup>th</sup> November 2014. Council was also updated on the Learning and Development programme for next year.

### **Ethics & Professionalism Committee (EPC)**

The Vice President presented the report of the meeting of the Ethics & Professionalism Committee held on the 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2014.

### **Drafting Working Group**

Council was advised that the Committee had decided to establish a Drafting Working Group. Council noted that the purpose of the Working Group is to draft the contents of new guidance on ethics and professionalism based on and in accordance with policy developed by the Committee and approved by Council.

## **Programme of Work**

Council noted the planned schedule of work and also that Council agreed to write to the Minister for Health outlining that our guidance is currently under review and to request clarification on the timeline of the plan to publish the pending legislation on Assisted Decision Making (Capacity).

## **Health Committee (HC)**

Dr Doyle presented the report of the Health Committee meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2014.

Council was advised of the recommendation of the Committee to release of two practitioners, from the support of the Committee.

Council noted that eight review sessions were conducted by the various teams in respect of an equal number of practitioners, to include the two recommended for release. Council noted the recommendation of the Committee that ongoing support be continued with reports and review sessions taken up and arranged as appropriate in respect of the relevant doctors.

Council noted that positive health reports were received and reviewed in respect to 4 practitioners and that review sessions are scheduled for 3 of the 4 practitioners in the coming month.

## **Audit Strategy & Risk Committee (ASRC)**

Mr Hurley presented the reports of the last two Audit, Strategy and Risk Committee meetings

- **Draft Corporate Governance Handbook**  
Council approved the revised Medical Council Corporate Governance Handbook.
- **Risk Register**  
Council was presented with the Directorate and Corporate Risk Registers with a summary report outlining the items on the register and any changes to the ratings.

## **Media Coverage Log**

Council noted the media log covering period: September - November 2014

## **Date and Time of next meeting**

Council noted that the next scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 12:30hrs & Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2014 at 08:30hrs