

MINUTES

Council Meeting

10th March 2016

Present

Tom Mooney (Chair)
Shane Mooney
Shane Knox
Stephen Brady
David Maher
Michael Brennan
Mick Molloy (via teleconference)
Patrick Plunkett
Glenna Woods
Valerie Small
Martin Dunne

Apologies

Cathal O' Donnell

In attendance

Peter Dennehy, Director
Barry O'Sullivan, Deputy Director
Marian Spence Secretariat
Brian Power, Programme Development Officer
Jacqueline Egan, Programme Development Officer
Kathleen Walsh, Programme Development Officer

1. Chair's Business

The Chair opened the meeting and acknowledged apologies. He welcomed Kathleen Walsh, Programme Development Officer on secondment from the Nursing & Midwifery Board of Ireland and is replacing Pauline Dempsey who is on secondment to the Dept. of Health.

1.1. Council Workshop – Update

The Chair provided a verbal report on the recent Council workshop. He confirmed the tender has been awarded to progress the outcomes of the workshop in the areas of regulation, education, organisational capability and the future of paramedicine in Ireland. He outlined that four working groups will be formed as part of the strategy. The Chair invited questions and asked that volunteers from Council contact the executive in this regard. It is envisaged that the final report will be brought back to the June meeting.

2. Minutes & Matters arising

2.1. Draft minutes February meeting and matters arising.

The draft minutes for February were included. It was noted that one attendee was omitted from the list.

Resolution:

Council approved the minutes for the meeting held in February 2016 subject to the inclusion of an additional name which was omitted from the attendance list.

Proposed: Shane Mooney
Carried without dissent

Seconded: Valerie Small

3. Governance and Finance

3.1. Policy Risk Management Procedures

As requested at the last meeting the Risk Management Procedure was included for information.

3.2. PHECC Position Papers, Future of Paramedicine in Ireland

This item was discussed earlier in the meeting under item 1.1., in relation to the Council Workshop. Members were provided with a copy of the tender which is available on the government e-tenders website for information. The Chair invited questions.

4. Registration Matters

4.1. Register Update

The report containing the names for awarding of the NQEMT along with a list of names for entering in the appropriate division on the Register was included in the meeting papers and noted by Council.

The Registrar informed the meeting that up to 400 EMTs remain outstanding for re-registration and their current licence will expire at the end of this month. As a result late fees will be incurred for these applicants.

4.2. Fitness to Practice – Update

It was reported that the date for the FTP Screening Committee will be finalised this week.

4.3. CPC – request for Tender

It was reported that a tender was awarded to a company which was the only tender received. A number of educational experts in addition to the nominated members at the Education & Standards Committee and the Medical Advisory Committee were invited to give feedback to the contractor at the interim meeting and a final report for Council following presentation to the Education & Standards Committee will be forthcoming.

5. Clinical Governance Matters

5.1. CPGs reflecting ILCOR 2015 changes

The Medical Advisory Committee (MAC) mapped and identified changes for relevant CPGs to line up with the 2015 ILCOR guidelines. A total of 37 CPGs were updated and recommended for consideration by Council.

The phraseology on some CPGs was raised and alternatives were suggested which may add more clarity. A discussion ensued. It was agreed following this discussion that any Council member who wished to clarify language on CPGs would contact Brian Power within one week after Council meeting. Both he and the Chair of the MAC would discuss and make the final decision on the item.

The Chair of the MAC, Mick Molloy acknowledged the work of Brian Power and the Medical Advisory Committee on this item.

The fall off in attendance of the Medical practitioners at the MAC meetings was also raised with the suggestion it may be prudent to examine this when the new council is formed. The Chair concurred

that the incoming Council may wish to reconsider the membership in light of attendance and also expressed recognition for the high volume of work on the CPGs.

5.2. CPGs with ILCOR 2015 reference without changes

A total of 21 CPGs with reference to resuscitation also reviewed by the MAC were included for consideration by Council. These were deemed to not require any changes and are compatible with the 2015 ILCOR guidelines. The reference for ILCOR 2015 has been updated on these CPGs.

5.3. Updated CPGs

A total of 11 current CPGs (non resuscitation CPGs) were updated in line with best practice and recommended by the MAC for consideration by Council.

5.4. New CPGs

A total of 3 new CPGs were included for consideration by Council.

Resolution:

Council approved the following CPGs as recommended by the Medical Advisory Committee:

- (a) **37 CPGs reflecting ILCOR 2015 changes**
- (b) **21 CPGs with ILCOR 2015 reference without changes**
- (c) **11 Updated CPGs**
- (d) **3 new CPGs**

Proposed: Shane Mooney

Seconded: Stephen Brady

Carried without dissent

5.5. Standard – Palliative care by PHECC registered practitioners

The Standard - Palliative Care by PHECC registered practitioners was included for consideration by Council. It was reported that the Palliative Care sub-group of MAC have been working for the past 18 months developing this standard and the associated CPG. A broad discussion ensued on this item and questions were raised and addressed. In conclusion there was general agreement to approve this Standard for the services. Reservations were expressed about the absence of the supporting package of undertakings that need to be established prior to the implementation and commencement of this standard.

Resolution:

Council approves the Standard for Palliative Care by PHECC registered practitioners.

Proposed: Pat Plunkett

Seconded: Shane Mooney

Carried without dissent

5.6. Prescription only medications for non-medical persons – Update

It was reported that the new package of the Standards and CPGs for Prescription only medications for non-medical persons approved by Council in February have been completed and will be available on the PHECC website soon. Both the HPRA and the DOH have been duly informed.

6. Quality and Safety

6.1. OHCAR Annual Report 2014

The copy of the OHCAR 2014 was included for information.

Shane Mooney referred to a clinical research paper by Gearóid Oman 'Use of telephone CPR advice in Ireland: Uptake by callers and delays in the assessment process' recently published in research journal. He recommended this to be presented to a future Priority Dispatch Committee meeting.

6.2. 2014 CPG Implementation status – Interim Report

The report on the CPGs implementation status was included as requested at a previous meeting. The detail of the report was outlined. The Quality & Safety Committee have made a recommendation to correspond with licenced CPG providers in advance of the close of the implementation period for the 2014 CPGs.

7. **Director's Report**

Items in the Director's report were referred to throughout the meeting.

7.1. Delegated decisions

The Director outlined the detail regarding the decisions listed on the report on delegated decisions. He spoke on the recent Respond Conference and referred to the presentation by Ray Carney at the conference on the CFR Project he is currently progressing for PHECC under a secondment arrangement. He confirmed a tender had been awarded for the next stage and filming for the associated video and the manual are being progressed.

8. **AOB**

8.1 Occupational First Aid (OFA)

The Director raised this matter and reported he has been approached by the Health & Safety Authority (HSA) in relation to the OFA standard being transferred to PHECC. He explained that the OFA course is aligned with the First Aid Response (FAR) Standard and that clinically there is no difference. Further discussion on this transition will continue with the DOH and all associated stakeholders and the Director will report back to Council on progress.

There being no other business the meeting concluded. The next meeting is scheduled for 14th April.

Signed:

Chairman



Date:

