



Minutes of the meeting of the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland (NMBI) held in 18/20 Carysfort Avenue, Blackrock, Co Dublin, on Thursday, 5 July 2018 starting at 10.00hrs.

Members Present:

Ms E Cassidy, President
Dr Louise Kavanagh McBride, Vice President
Mr L Hamill
Ms L Clarke-Bishop
Mr D Manning
Ms C Cocoman
Ms K Lombard
Mr M Higgins

In attendance:

Ms U Byrne, Interim CEO and Director of Regulation
Mr E Lyons, Beauchamps Solicitors (item 2)
Ms J Foley, Director of Professional Standards (Nursing) (item 5)
Ms G Farren, Professional Officer (Midwifery) (items 5-6)
Ms D Pierce, HR Consultant (item 7.4)
Ms V O'Rourke, Fitness to Practise Department
Ms O Coady, Governance and Secretariat Manager

Item 1 – Apologies and conflicts of interest

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Mr M Blake-Knox, Mr D Murphy , Mr P Dolan, Ms B Liston , Ms T King , Ms Elaine Cassidy, Mr K McGrane , Dr D Lawler, Ms M Gorman, Ms E Kelly, Mr L Minihan and Ms K Canning.
- 1.2 The President reminded Board members of the provisions of the conflict of interest policy. The President then asked Board members to review the agenda to identify any conflicts of interest. No interests were declared.

The President advised the Board that Ms Byrne had commenced as Interim CEO from 2 July 2018 and that work was ongoing to backfill the post of Director of Regulation as soon as possible. The Board congratulated Ms Byrne on her appointment.

Fitness to practise matters (items 2-3)

The Board considered the following:

- One application pursuant to Section 58 of the Nurses and Midwives Act 2011.
- One application pursuant to Section 55(1) of the Nurses and Midwives Act 2011.

Action The Communications Manager, Ms de Burca, to work with the Fitness to Practise Department in preparing articles for publication on themes and trends in fitness to practise complaints.

Item 4 – Appointment of case officer(s) pursuant to Section 56(1) of the Nurses and Midwives 2011

Decision The Board approved the appointment of Mr Ian Cox as case officer pursuant to Section 56 (1) of the Nurses and Midwives Act 2011.

The Board revoked the appointment of the following as case officers:

- Mr Conor Doran, former staff member, NMBI.
- Ms Ciara Hanratty, Solicitor, McDowell Purcell Solicitors.
- Ms Sinead Taffee, Solicitor, McDowell Purcell Solicitors.

Items 5 and 6 were considered by an item 7.

Item 7 – Any other business

The Board considered an email from Ms Byrne to the President which had been sent that morning regarding requests by committees for legal advice.

The terms of reference of each committee, except the Preliminary Proceedings Committee and the Fitness to Practise Committee, stated that such a request by a committee should be channelled through the office of the CEO and approved by the Board. In her email, Ms Byrne asked whether the President had delegated authority from the Board to approve the seeking of legal advice, as having to bring the matter to the Board each time could delay getting the advice.

Ms Byrne informed the Board that she was in receipt of two requests for legal advice and that she would discuss same with the President. In the first instance, Ms Byrne was recommending that legal advice be sought and in the second, Ms Byrne had sought further information and would then consider the request.

It was agreed that if a request for legal advice was not acceded to feedback would be provided to the committee.

Item 7 was continued after item 6.

Ms Foley and Ms Farren joined the meeting.

Item 5 – Professional Standards (Nursing)

5.1 University of Limerick

The Board considered the briefing document, which had previously been circulated to members, and which set out information on the following programmes:

- BSc (Hons) in Nursing (General)
- BSc (Hons) in Nursing (Intellectual Disability)
- BSc (Hons) in Nursing (Psychiatric).

Decision In accordance with Section 85(2) of the Nurses and Midwives Act 2011 the Board approved the following courses for five years or until the next site visit whichever is the earliest:

- BSc (Hons) in Nursing (General)
- BSc (Hons) in Nursing (Intellectual Disability)
- BSc (Hons) in Nursing (Psychiatric).

Ms Foley left the meeting.

Item 6 – Professional Standards (Midwifery)

6.1 University College Dublin

The Board considered the briefing document, which had previously been circulated to members, and which set out information on the following programme:

- BSc (Hons) in Midwifery.

Decision In accordance with Section 85(2) of the Nurses and Midwives Act 2011 the Board approved the BSc (Hons) in Midwifery (UCD) for five years or until the next site visit whichever is the earliest.

6.2 University College Cork

The Board considered the briefing document, which had previously been

circulated to members, and which set out information on the following programme:

- Higher Diploma in Midwifery.

Decision In accordance with Section 85(2) of the Nurses and Midwives Act 2011 the Board approved the Higher Diploma in Midwifery (UCC) for five years or until the next site visit whichever is the earliest.

Ms Farren left the meeting.

Item 7 – Any other business (continued)

7.3 Professional Certificate in Governance (Institute of Public Administration)

The President advised that applications to undertake the course had been received from Board members Ms Elaine Cassidy, Ms Clarke-Bishop and Dr Lawler and that these Board Members would be supported to undertake the course. The Board noted that Ms Liston had deferred for a year in 2017 but would resume the course in 2018.

Ms Pierce joined the meeting.

7.3 HR update

CEO recruitment process

Ms Pierce updated the Board on the CEO recruitment process.

Ms Pierce advised the Board that the advertisement for CEO was ready to be progressed through the PAS and that the PAS had suggested that it be launched towards the end of July or beginning of August.

Decision The Board agreed that the executive search service with the PAS would not be used and that the recruitment campaign be launched with the PAS with a view to interviews being held early in Q4 2018.

Ms Pierce advised that Dr Anne-Marie Ryan would return from secondment on 23 July 2018. Dr Ryan would take up the post of Director of Operations (Registration) for an interim period while the Director of Registration, Ms Lucia Crimin, was overseeing the progress of the registration system project. Ms Crimin would remain as Director of Registration. Ms Foley would continue in the role of Acting Director of Professional Standards (Nursing).



There being no further matters for consideration the meeting concluded at 11.45hrs.

Signed: _____

Essene Cassidy
President

Date: _____