

Edited minutes of the hybrid meeting of the Board of the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland (NMBI) held on Wednesday, 21 May 2025 starting at 9.00hrs.

Members present in person

Dr Louise Kavanagh McBride, President of NMBI
Dr Aileen Lynch
Ms Muireann Ní Shúilleabháin
Dr Conan McKenna
Mr Terry McGonigal
Ms Louise Collins

Members attending online

Ms Áine Lynch, Vice President of NMBI
Mr Ray Dolan
Ms Marie Lavelle
Mr John Horan
Ms Anne Marie Duffy
Ms Niamh Murphy
Ms Kate O'Halloran
Ms Somy Thomas
Dr Lydia Buckley
Ms Mary Leahy

In attendance

Ms Carolyn Donohoe, Interim CEO
Ms Kathyann Barrett, Head of Operations
Dr Ray Healy, Director of Registration
Dr Karn Cliffe, Director of Midwifery
Ms Lorraine Clarke-Bishop, Interim Director of Education, Policy and Standards
Ms Marie-Therese Hackett, Acting Director of Fitness to Practise
Dr Karn Cliffe, Director of Midwifery
Ms Mary Devane, Professional Officer, Education, Policy and Standards Department
Dr Mary Ryder, Associate Professor in General Nursing, University College Dublin
Ms Terri Raftery, Head of Digitisation
Mr Ronan McEvoy, MyNMBI NextGen Project Manager
Mr Jack Cleary, Digital Product Owner
Mr David Cassidy, Finance Manager
Mr John Sadlier, Head of PPC
Ms Orla Coady, Governance and Secretariat Manager
Mr Mohamed Nader, Secretariat Officer, Fitness to Practise Division
Ms Niamh McDonald, Liaison Officer, Fitness to Practise Department

Mr David Dolan, General Medical Council, UK

Item 1 – Apologies and conflicts of interest

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Ms Mary Rose Loughnane, Mr Mark Johnston, Prof Nadine Farah, Dr Gráinne Gaffney, Dr Margaret Murphy, Ms Mittu Alungal and Ms Sonia Shortt.
- 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.

The President reminded members that matters discussed during this meeting were to remain confidential to Board members and attendees.

Item 2 – President’s update

2.1 President’s update

The President updated the Board on the main activities, events and meetings she had been involved in since the last Board meeting.

Dr Burke and Ms O’Halloran joined the meeting.

Item 3 – CEO’s update

3.1 CEO report

The Board noted the CEO report, incorporating the directorate reports, which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting.

Item 4 – MyNMBI

Ms Terri Raftery, Head of Digitisation, Mr Ronan McEvoy, MyNMBI NextGen Project Manager, and Mr Jack Cleary, Digital Product Owner, joined the meeting.

4.1 NextGen update

The Board considered the presentation which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting and which provided an update on the progress of the MyNMBI NextGen project.



Following discussion of the project's progress, Mr Cleary provided a demonstration of the new system, showcasing its key features and functionality.

4.2 MyNMBI Next Gen comms plan

The Board noting the briefing paper which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. The document outlined the communications plan for the MyNMBI Next Gen project, detailing how the project would be communicated to registrants once in place.

Ms Raftery, Mr Cleary and Mr McEvoy left the meeting.

Item 5 – Registration

5.1 Appointment of Registration Committee Chair

The Board considered the briefing paper which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting.

Decision The Board accepted the recommendation of the Registration Committee and appointed Dr Gráinne Gaffney as Chair of the Registration Committee for a period of three years until 21 May 2028.

5.2 Humanitarian practice permit for Palestinian nurses

The Board noted the briefing paper which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting.

Item 6 – Business, Strategy and Finance

Mr Cassidy joined the meeting.

6.1 Management accounts – February 2025

The Board considered the management accounts for February 2025 which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting.

Decision The Board accepted the recommendation of the Business, Strategy and Finance Committee and approved the management accounts for February 2025. The Board noted that management accounts for March 2025 would be presented to the Board at its meeting on 23 July 2025.

6.2 Bank account interest review



The Board considered the briefing paper which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting.

Decision The Board accepted the recommendation of the Business, Strategy and Finance Committee as set out in the briefing paper.

Mr Cassidy left the meeting.

6.3 Statement of Strategy 2026-2028

The Board noted the briefing paper which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting and which provided an update on the development of NMBI's next Statement of Strategy (SOS) to cover the period of 2026 to 2028.

Regional stakeholder engagement sessions had taken place in Athlone and Cork as part of the process for development of the SOS 2026-2028. Further sessions were scheduled for Letterkenny and Dublin. A session had also been held with NMBI staff to gather internal perspectives and input.

A draft document would be presented to the Business, Strategy and Finance Committee and the Board for approval in July 2025 before being made available for public consultation.

The President thanked those Board members who had attended the stakeholder engagement sessions and encouraged members to attend the upcoming sessions if possible.

6.4 Business plan 2025

The Board noted the briefing paper and tracker which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting and which detailed the Q1 updates of progress against the 2025 business plan.

6.5 Procurement: Facilities contract

The Board considered the briefing memo and evaluation report which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting.

Decision The Board accepted the recommendation of the Business, Strategy and Finance Committee and agreed that contract be awarded as set out in the briefing paper.

6.6 Objectives and key indicators



The Board noted the briefing paper and the report on key indicators which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting.

Item 7 – Audit and Risk

7.1 Corporate Risk Register

The Head of Operations provided a verbal update on the current risk position. The Board noted that there was no updated version of the Corporate Risk Register for consideration as there had not been a meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee since the last Board meeting. Therefore, the most recent version of the Corporate Risk Register remained the one previously approved by the Board.

The Corporate Risk Register would be reviewed and considered by the Audit and Risk Committee at its meeting on 15 July 2025 with an updated version presented to the Board at its meeting on 23 July 2025. The review of operational risks remained ongoing.

Item 8 – Education, Policy and Standards

Ms Lorraine Clarke-Bishop, Interim Director of Education, Policy and Standards, Dr Karn Cliffe, Director of Midwifery, Ms Mary Devane, Professional Officer, Education, Policy and Standards Department and Dr Mary Ryder, Associate Professor in General Nursing, University College Dublin, joined the meeting.

8.1 Appointment of Board member to the Education Training and Standards Committee

The Board considered the briefing paper which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting.

Decision The Board agreed to appoint Dr Aileen Lynch to the Education, Training and Standards Committee.

8.2 Standards and requirements

Ms Leahy and Mr Dolan joined the meeting during this item.

The Board noted the briefing paper and the following documents which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting:

- What's new in the 2025 Draft Undergraduate Standards?



- Consultation Draft Nurse Registration Programmes Standards – Sixth Edition.
- Undergraduate Nursing Standards Presentation.

Dr Ryder took the Board through the timeline on the development of the Nurse Registration Programme Standards which was set out in the presentation.

Items 8.3-8.5 were considered after item 9.

Item 9 – Professional Standards – Midwifery

9.1 Standards for Midwifery Registration Programme

In February 2025 NMBI set up an advisory group with key midwifery stakeholders to guide the development of the midwifery standards following the RUN-ME research and ERB recommendations. Public consultation opened on 7 May 2025 and would close on 3 June 2025.

Item 8 – Education, Policy and Standards (continued)

8. Programmes leading to registration

8.3.1 *Royal College of Surgeons Ireland*

The Board noted that the following programme had been considered by the Education, Training and Standards Committee at its meeting on 15 May 2025 and was recommended for approval by the Committee:

- Postgraduate Certificate Diploma in Health Professions Education (Nurse/Midwife Tutor) (Level 9, 70 ECTS)

Decision In accordance with section 85(2) of the Nurses and Midwives Act 2011, as amended, the Board accepted the recommendation of the Education, Training and Standards Committee and agreed that the Royal College of Surgeons Ireland be approved to provide the above programme for a period of five years or until the next site visit as an allied healthcare provider site of the Royal College of Surgeons Ireland, whichever was soonest.

8.3.2 *University College Dublin*

The Board noted that the following programme had been considered by the Education, Training and Standards Committee at its meeting on 15 May 2025 and was recommended for approval by the Committee:



- MSc/PG Diploma in Nursing (Public Health) (Level 9, 90 ECTS)

Decision In accordance with section 85(2) of the Nurses and Midwives Act 2011, as amended, the Board accepted the recommendation of the Education, Training and Standards Committee and agreed that University College Dublin be approved to provide the above programme for a period of five years or until the next site visit as an allied healthcare provider site of University College Dublin, whichever was soonest.

8.4 Adaptation programme provider – first time applicant

The Board considered the briefing paper which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting.

Decision The Board accepted the recommendation of the Education, Training and Standards Committee and agreed that, in accordance with section 85(2) of the Nurses and Midwives Act 2011, as amended, Maternity Department Wexford General Hospital be approved to provide adaptation programmes in midwifery registration (RM) for a period of five years or until the next site visit whichever is soonest.

8.5 Policy for Programme Approval and Monitoring Processes (Second Edition)

The Board considered the draft policy which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. This draft policy was a revision of the first edition of the policy which had been approved by the Board in January 2022.

Decision The Board accepted the recommendation of the Education, Training and Standards Committee and approved the revised policy (second edition).

Item 9 – Fitness to Practice

Ms Marie-Therese Hackett, Acting Director of Fitness to Practise, and Mr Mohamed Nader, Secretariat Officer, Fitness to Practise Division joined the meeting.

9.1 Re-appointment non-board member to the Fitness to Practise Committee

The Board considered the briefing paper which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting.

Decision The Board agreed to re-appoint non-Board member Barbara Stuart (lay member) to the Fitness to Practise Committee for a second term of three years.



9.2 Garda vetting referrals

The Board noted the briefing papers which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Two positions in relation to referral under section 19 of the National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Act 2012 were set out in the papers.

A full pack would be prepared and circulated to the Board by email by the end of June. Board members would be asked to get back to the Acting Director of Fitness to Practise with their questions or comments in advance of the July Board meeting so that these could be taken into account in preparing the documents for the meeting.

9.1 Reports

9.1.1 *Section 58 orders/undertakings*

The Board noted the report which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting and which set out details of registrants subject to section 58 orders/undertakings to the High Court and undertakings to the Board.

9.1.2 *Conditions report*

The Board noted the update report which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. The report gave details of registrants subject to conditions which were imposed following fitness to practise proceedings and which were confirmed by the High Court.

9.1.3 *Undertakings report*

The Board noted the update report which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. The report gave details of undertakings given under section 65 and section 57A of the Nurses and Midwives Act 2011, as amended.

Ms Hackett and Mr Nader left the meeting.

Item 10 – Minutes and actions of previous meetings

10.1 Minutes of previous meetings

10.1.1 *Minutes of the meeting of 21 March 2025*

The Board considered the minutes of the meeting of 21 March 2025 which had previously been circulated to members.



Decision The Board approved the minutes of the meeting of the 21 March 2025.

10.1.2 *Minutes of the meeting of 24 March 2025 – 1*

The Board considered the minutes of the meeting of 21 March 2025 – 1 which had previously been circulated to members.

Decision The Board approved the minutes of the meeting of the 21 March 2025 – 1.

10.1.3 *Minutes of the meeting of 24 March 2025 – 2*

The Board considered the minutes of the meeting of 24 March 2025 – 2 which had previously been circulated to members.

Decision The Board approved the minutes of the meeting of the 24 March 2025 – 2.

10.1.4 *Minutes of the meeting of 25 March 2025*

The Board considered the minutes of the meeting of 25 March 2025 which had previously been circulated to members.

Decision The Board approved the minutes of the meeting of the 25 March 2025.

10.1.5 *Minutes of the meeting of 26 March 2025*

The Board considered the minutes of the meeting of 26 March 2025 which had previously been circulated to members.

Decision The Board approved the minutes of the meeting of the 26 March 2025.

10.1.6 *Minutes of the meeting of 3 April 2025*

The Board considered the minutes of the meeting of 3 April 2025 which had previously been circulated to members.

Decision The Board approved the minutes of the meeting of the 3 April 2025.

10.1.7 *Minutes of the meeting of 15 April 2025*

The Board considered the minutes of the meeting of 15 April 2025 which had previously been circulated to members.

Decision The Board approved the minutes of the meeting of the 15 April 2025.

10.1.8 *Minutes of the meeting of 2 May 2025*



The Board considered the minutes of the meeting of 2 May 2025 which had previously been circulated to members.

Decision The Board approved the minutes of the meeting of the 2 May 2025.

10.1.9 *Minutes of the meeting of 6 May 2025*

The Board considered the minutes of the meeting of 6 May 2025 which had previously been circulated to members.

Decision The Board approved the minutes of the meeting of the 6 May 2025.

10.2 Actions and matters arising from previous meetings

The Board approved action list which had been updated following the November Board meeting.

There were no matters arising which were not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda or in the minutes or action list.

Item 11 (private session) was removed from the agenda.

Item 12 – Any other business

The President suggested hosting a national regulatory conference in Ireland towards the end of the year, bringing together all healthcare regulators. This event would be similar in concept to the annual international education-focused conference organised by CLEAR (Council on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation). The aim would be to foster collaboration, share best practices and strengthen regulatory approaches across the healthcare sector in Ireland.

The President had already scheduled a planning meeting at the end of June with members of the Executive and the Board's legal advisors to discuss succession planning, travel plans and fitness to practise meetings. She proposed that the idea could be further teased out at this meeting.

Mr McGonigal, Ms O'Halloran and Ms Duffy left the meeting.

Item 13 – Fitness to practise session: Witness care project

Ms Hackett returned to the meeting. Ms Niamh McDonald, Liaison Officer, Fitness to Practise Department and Mr David Dolan, General Medical Council, UK joined the meeting.



A presentation by Prof Louise Wallace on the Witness to Harm project had been circulated to Board members in advance of the meeting. NMBI's position paper on witness care had also been circulated to the Board in advance of the meeting. Following a brief presentation by the Acting Director of Fitness to Practise, members were divided into breakout groups for discussion. The meeting concluded with a Q&A session and feedback from the breakout groups with all members reconvened.

There being no further matters for consideration the meeting ended at 16.10hrs.