Bord Altranais agus Cnáimhseachais na hÉireann
Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland

Redacted minutes of the hybrid meeting of the Board of the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland (NMBI) held on Tuesday, 30 June 2026 starting at 11.00hrs.

Members present in person

Ms Áine Lynch, President of NMBI
Ms Mary Leahy
Ms Somy Thomas
Dr Conan McKenna
Ms Muireann Ní Shúilleabháin
Ms Anne Marie Duffy
Ms Mittu Alungal
Mr Ray Dolan
Mr Terry McGonigal
Dr Des Cawley

Members attending online

Ms Louise Collins
Ms Marie Lavelle
Ms Niamh Murphy
Dr Lydia Buckley
Dr Margaret Murphy
Ms Karina O'Sullivan

In attendance

Ms Carolyn Donohoe, Interim CEO
Ms Kathyann Barrett, Director of Corporate Services and Strategy
Ms Lorraine Clarke, Director of Education, Policy and Standards
Dr Karn Cliffe, Director of Midwifery
Ms Orla Crowe, Director of Fitness to Practise
Mr David Cassidy, Finance Manager
Ms Orla Coady, Governance and Secretariat Manager
Ms Claire Nolan, Education Officer
Mr Jack Cleary, Digital Product Owner

Item 1 – Apologies and conflicts of interest

1.1 Apologies were received from Dr Gráinne Gaffney, Mr John Horan, Mr Mark Johnston, Dr Aileen Lynch, Ms Sonia Shortt and Ms Kate O'Halloran.

The President advised the Board that Prof Nadine Farah had resigned from the Board with effect from 30 June 2026. The President noted her appreciation for Prof Farah's contributions to the Board during her tenure.

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 – Minutes and actions of previous meetings

2.1 Minutes of previous meetings

2.1.1 *Minutes of the meeting of 19 May 2026*

The Board considered the minutes of the meeting of 19 May 2026 which had previously been circulated to members.

Decision The Board approved the minutes of the meeting of the 19 May 2026.

2.1.2 *Minutes of the meeting of 20 May 2026*

The Board considered the minutes of the meeting of 20 May 2026 which had previously been circulated to members.

Decision The Board approved the minutes of the meeting of the 20 May 2026.

2.1.3 *Minutes of the meeting of 29 May 2026*

The Board considered the minutes of the meeting of 29 May 2026 which had previously been circulated to members.

Decision The Board approved the minutes of the meeting of the 29 May 2026.

2.2 Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meetings which were not already covered elsewhere on the agenda.

2.3 Actions

The Board considered the action list which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting.

Decision The Board approved the updated action list.

2.4 Written decision

The Board noted the report on the decision taken by the Board on 5 June 2026 using its Written Decision Procedure.

Item 3 – President's update

3.1 President's update

The President drew the Board's attention to the report which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. The report listed the activities and events the President had been involved in since the May Board meeting, and correspondence received and sent.

The President advised the Board that she had now met most NMBI staff from each of the functional areas. She noted that she was very impressed by the volume of work being undertaken throughout the organisation.

Item 4 – CEO's update

4.1 CEO report

The Director of Education, Policy and Standards joined the meeting.

The CEO advised the Board that the report had been reformatted to place strategic considerations at the beginning. The CEO presented the three key strategic considerations identified for the June Board meeting.

The Board noted the CEO report.

Item 5 – Business, Strategy and Finance

5.1 Board and committees

5.1.1 *Policy for use of presidential chain*

The Board considered the draft policy which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. The draft policy set out the arrangements for the use, access, maintenance and care of the presidential chain.

Decision The Board accepted the recommendation of the Business, Strategy and Finance Committee and approved the policy subject to the inclusion of additional wording clarifying the occasions on which the Presidential Chain may be worn.

5.1.2 *Policy for the use of the seal of the Board*

The Board considered the revised policy and cover sheet which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. The cover sheet provided a summary of the proposed changes and revisions to the policy.

Decision The Board accepted the recommendation of the Business, Strategy and Finance Committee and approved the policy.

5.1.3 *Board Election 2026 – Returning Officer*

The Board considered the update on the upcoming Board election including the notice of election.

Decision The Board agreed to appoint the CEO as Returning Officer for any Board election which may take place on any date in 2026.

5.2 Comms

The Communications Manager, Ms O'Doherty, joined the meeting.

5.1.1 *Communications Strategy 2026-2029*

The Board considered the draft Communications Strategy which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. The Communications Strategy 2026-2029 had been mapped to the strategic goals set out in NMBI's Statement of Strategy 2026-2029.

Ms O'Doherty advised that the Communications Strategy was intended to provide a high-level framework for communications activity over the period. Detailed workplans would be developed to support the implementation of the Communications Strategy. Targeted communications plans would also be developed as required to support specific projects e.g. the Professional Competence Scheme.

Decision The Board accepted the recommendation of the Business, Strategy and Finance Committee and approved the Communications Strategy 2026-2029.

5.1.2 *Comms review*

The Board noted the report which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. The report provided a review of communications activity undertaken during 2025 and expanded on the communications update which had been presented to the Board in November 2025 by way of a slide deck. The report providing a full narrative account of communications performance and activity during the year.

Ms O'Doherty left the meeting.

The Director of Education, Policy and Standards left the meeting.

5.3 HR Strategy 2026-2029

The Board considered the draft HR Strategy 2026-2029 which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. The HR Strategy had been mapped to the strategic goals set out in NMBI's Statement of Strategy 2026-2029.

Decision The Board accepted the recommendation of the Business, Strategy and Finance Committee and approved the HR Strategy 2026-2029 subject to inclusion of the section as recommended by the Committee. A final version of the HR Strategy would be brought back to the Committee and the Board at their September meetings for noting.

The Board returned to discuss the HR data presented within the CEO Report. The Board noted that additional narrative and analysis would assist in understanding the data. The Board suggested that the inclusion of comparative data and benchmarking where available would be useful.

5.4 Finance

The Finance Manager, Mr Cassidy, joined the meeting.

Ms Leahy joined the meeting.

Dr Buckley left the meeting during this item.

5.4.1 *Management accounts – April 2026*

The Board considered the management accounts for April 2026 which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. The Board noted that the management accounts for May 2026 had not been fully finalised in time for the meeting and would be presented to the Business, Strategy and Finance Committee and the Board at their meetings in September.

Decision The Board accepted the recommendation of the Business, Strategy and Finance Committee and approved the management accounts for April 2026.

5.4.2 *Update on core funding*

The Board noted the briefing paper which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. The CEO advised the Board that the Business, Strategy and Finance Committee and the Audit and Risk Committee had been briefed in detail on the matter.

5.4.3 *Non-ARF fee changes*

The Board considered the briefing paper which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting and which set out a number of proposed changes to non-ARF fees.

The Board discussed the paper at length and agreed not to consider any of the proposed fee options at this time. Members requested that the Director bring a revised paper to the September Board meeting for further consideration.

Mr Cassidy left the meeting.

5.5 Key performance indicators (KPIs)

The Board noted the report and data sheet which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. The report provided the quantitative KPI data for the period ending 31 May 2026. A paper setting out quantitative KPI definitions had also circulated been circulated. The data sheets for 2024 and 2025 were presented for comparison purposes.

The Director of Corporate Services and Strategy advised that the presentation format was a work in progress and would be reviewed again in advance of the September meeting.

Item 6 – Audit and Risk

6.1 Corporate Risk Register

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

Decision The Board accepted the recommendation of the Audit and Risk Committee and approved the updated Corporate Risk Register.

6.2 Audit

6.2.1 *Internal audit annual report 2025*

The Board noted the report, which provided an overview of internal audit activity undertaken during 2025 including the audit ratings and levels of assurance assigned to each audit.

The Director of Corporate Services and Strategy advised that the report was being presented following a request from the Board at a previous meeting to receive an overview of internal audit activity and findings. The Director advised that all audit recommendations were tracked through an audit tracker which was presented to the Audit and Risk Committee as a standing agenda item for monitoring and oversight.

6.2.2 *Internal audit advisory report: Cyber security NIS2 Directive*

The Board noted the report and appendix which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting.

The report provided details of the audit which focused on the examination of NMBI's readiness for compliance with the upcoming EU cyber security NIS2 directive. The Directive had not yet been transcribed into Irish law. The appendix provided detail of the auditor's observations and recommendations.

The Board noted that this was an advisory report rather than an assurance audit. The review had been undertaken to undertaken to identify areas where further work would be required to support NMBI's preparedness for compliance with the Directive once transposition occurred.

Item 7 – Digitisation project: MyNMBI NextGen

7.1 The Director of Midwifery, Ms Nolan and Mr Cleary joined the meeting.

The Board noted the cover sheet and presentation which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting and which set out details in relation to:

- MyNMBI NextGen current status
- Funding
- Current activity
- Licensing
- Project risks

The Director of Corporate Services and Strategy, Ms Nolan and Mr Cleary left the meeting.

Item 8 – Education, Policy and Standards

The Director of Education, Policy and Standards, Ms Clarke, joined the meeting.

8.1 Standards for Radiological Referral by Registered Nurses and Registered Midwives 3rd Edition

A review of the standards for radiological referral had been completed. The review was informed by a three-phase consultation process with strong stakeholder support.

The Board considered the briefing paper which outlined the consultation process, the draft consultation report and the draft standards 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 approved the revised standards.

8.2 Pilot Professional Competence Scheme findings report

A national pilot of the Professional Competence Scheme (PCS) had been undertaken between January 2025 and April 2026. The purpose of the pilot was to test the implementation of the scheme in practice and assess its feasibility, proportionality, flexibility and capacity to support the monitoring and maintenance of professional competence.

The Board considered the briefing paper and report on the pilot which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. The report provided a comprehensive account of the pilot methodology, findings, audit outcomes and participant evaluation. The Director of Education, Policy and Standards advised that the current target implementation date was 2027 subject to the commencement of the relevant legislative provisions.

Decision The Board accepted the recommendation of the Education, Training and Standards Committee and approved the report.

8.3 Dundalk Institute of Technology (DKIT) site inspection report

The Board considered the briefing paper and report 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 DKIT be approved to provide undergraduate programmes leading to registration, postgraduate programmes

leading to registration and postgraduate programmes not leading to registration as set out in the briefing paper.

8.4 Atlantic Technological University (ATU) extension request and combined site inspection request

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 accepted ATU's request to extend the site inspection cycle for ATU Donegal in order to facilitate a single combined site inspection across all three ATU campuses in May 2028.

8.5 Programmes for approval

8.5.1 *Consortium of Centres of Nursing and Midwifery Education*

The Board considered the summary reports in respect of the following programmes which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting:

- Certificate in Acute Stroke Nursing (Adult)
- Certificate in Comprehensive Health Assessment (Adult)

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, the Consortium and associated healthcare provider sites be approved to provide the following programmes for a period of five years or until the next site visit whichever was soonest:

- Certificate in Acute Stroke Nursing (Adult)
- Certificate in Comprehensive Health Assessment (Adult)

8.5.2 *Royal College of Surgeons Ireland (RCSI)*

The Board considered the summary report in respect of the following programmes which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting:

- Postgraduate Certificate/Postgraduate Diploma/MSc Neurology Nursing Practice

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, the RCSI and associated healthcare

provider sites be approved to provide the following programmes for a period of five years or until the next site visit whichever was soonest:

- Postgraduate Certificate/Postgraduate Diploma/MSc Neurology Nursing Practice

Item 9 – Registration

9.1 Registration survey results

The Board noted the report which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. The report provided an analysis of the 2026 Registrant Survey, with particular attention to the profile of nurses and midwives on the NMBI register, qualification levels, accumulated work experience and the reasons given by those who were not currently practising for maintaining their registration.

Item 10 – Professional Standards – Midwifery

10.1 Presentation on International Confederation of Midwives (ICM)

The Director of Midwifery recently attended the 34th ICM Triennial Congress – the largest global gathering of midwives. The congress is held every three years and brings together midwives, educators, researchers and partners from around the world to exchange ideas, celebrate achievements and collaborate on advancing the profession. This year's congress took place in Lisbon.

The Director of Midwifery gave a presentation to the Board on the key insights, developments and relevant learnings arising from the conference.

The Director of Midwifery and the Director of Education, Policy and Standards left the meeting.

Item 11 – Fitness to Practice

The Director of Fitness to Practise, Ms Crowe, joined the meeting.

On behalf of the Board, the President welcomed the Director back following her maternity leave and extended congratulations to her.

11.1 Reports

11.1.1 *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 who were subject to section 58 orders/undertakings to the High Court and undertakings to the Board.

11.1.2 *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 who were subject to conditions which were imposed following fitness to practise proceedings and which were confirmed by the High Court.

11.1.3 *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.

The Director advised the Board that she would work with the Head of PPC to revise the format of the undertakings report before the next Board meeting to make it more concise and user-friendly.

11.2 FTP inquiry strategy

The Chair of the Fitness to Practise Committee provided a verbal update on the FTP Inquiry Strategy Day which had taken place on 23 June 2026 and was attended by the Chair, representatives of the Fitness to Practise Department and the Chief Executive Officer.

Item 12 – Any other business

There being no further matters for consideration the meeting ended at 15.25hrs.