

## PSI Council Public Meeting Minutes

**Minutes of meeting number 145 of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland (PSI), as established under the Pharmacy Act 2007, the public session of which convened in person and online and commenced at 08:30am on Thursday, June 20th 2024.**

### Preliminary Matter – Election of President and Vice President of the PSI Council.

Following the counting of votes, Ms. Aoife Mellett, Presiding Officer, informed Council that Ms. Katherine Morrow had been elected President of Council and Dr. Denis O’Driscoll had been elected Vice-President of Council for the 2024-2025 term. Both candidates thanked Council members for their support. The President took the chair.

### Agenda Item A - Attendees & Apologies

Name	Role	Present (Yes/No)
Ms. Katherine Morrow	President	Yes
Dr. Denis O’ Driscoll	Vice-President	Yes
Dr. Cyril Sullivan	Council Member	No
Dr. Ann McGarry	Council Member	Yes
Dr. Paula Barry Walsh	Council Member	Yes (online)
Mr. Peter Dennehy	Council Member	Yes
Prof. Laura Sahm	Council Member	Yes
Mr. Martin Sisk	Council Member	Yes
Mr. John Given	Council Member	Yes
Ms. Grainne Power	Council Member	No
Ms. Geraldine Crowley	Council Member	Yes (online)
Ms. Geraldine Campbell	Council Member	Yes
Ms. Marie Louisa Power	Council Member	Yes
Mr. Sean Reilly	Council Member	Yes (online)
Mr. Rory O’Donnell	Council Member	Yes
. Joan Peppard	Council Member	Yes
Ms. Dorothy Donovan	Council Member	No
Mr. Martin Higgins	Council Member	Yes
Mr. Mark Jordan	Council Member	Yes
Ms. Emily Kelly	Council Member	Yes
Mr. Richard Hammond S.C.	Council Member	Yes

**Members of PSI staff in attendance included:**

Ms. Joanne Kissane, Registrar.

Mr. Éanna Ó Lochlainn, Corporate Governance & Planning Officer.

Ms. Orla Carroll, Community Pharmacy Quality and Safety Manager

Ms. Damhnait Gaughan, Head of Practitioner Assurance.

Ms. Aoife Mellett, Head of Governance and Programme Delivery and Chief Risk Officer (Acting).

Ms. Cora O’Connell, Professional Standards Manager

Mr. Dan Burns, Head of Strategic Policy, Research and Communication

Ms. Laura Irwin, Community Pharmacy, Quality and Safety Manager.

Ms. Ciara Dooley, Regulatory Risk Co-Ordinator

Dr. Cheryl Stokes, Head of Corporate Services

**Colour code: Red—for decision; Green—for discussion; Blue—for information**

**Agenda Item B – Declaration of Interest by Members of Council**

**Issue**

Declaration of interests by members of Council.

**Information**

The President drew Council members’ attention to their obligations under paragraph 9 of Schedule 1 to the Pharmacy Act 2007, which deals with the necessary disclosure of interests by members of the Council.

**Decision Approved and/or Action Requested by Council**

No conflict of interest was declared by any member of Council.

**Agenda Item C – Draft Minutes of Public Council Meeting No. 144**

**Issue**

The Draft Minutes of Public Council Meeting No.144 were tabled for approval by Council.

**Information**

None.

### Decision Approved and/or Action Requested by Council

**Decision Approved:** Council approved the draft Minutes of the public session of Council meeting number 144 held on May 21st, 2024, on the proposal of Mr. Richard Hammond and seconded by Mr. Martin Sisk.

### Agenda Item D – Agreement on the Meeting Agenda

#### Issue

The President noted that no AOB item had been tabled in advance of the meeting.

#### Information

None.

### Decision Approved and/or Action Requested by Council

No item was tabled for discussion under any other business.

### Agenda Item E.1 Registrar’s Report.

#### Issue

Registrar’s Report to Council.

#### Information

A copy of the Report had been circulated to Council in advance of the meeting.

The Registrar highlighted the work being done to operationalise the revised Third Country Qualification Recognition (TCQR) route process, noting that the proposed amendment to the revised TCQR route would be considered by Council later in the meeting. Council was briefed on the development of the process, including pertinent environmental and legislative changes that ensued in the evolution of the development of this route.

Council’s attention was drawn to the progress being made on proposals to empower and enhance the scope of practice of pharmacists. Extending the validity and duration of prescriptions whose practical application would commence on September 1st 2024, and potential prescribing activity contextualised in the enactment of appropriate relevant legislation underpinning a revised scope of practice for pharmacists is imminent. She informed Council that relevant supports needed for pharmacists to implement these changes were currently being developed.

The Registrar informed Council that the PSI had secured the services of a consultant to carry out an assessment of human rights and equality issues relevant to the work and functions of the PSI. This assessment was due to commence in Q3.

The Registrar invited questions from Council. Council requested further detail on the role of Medicines Criticality Assessment Group (MCAG), on which PSI is represented. This group is led by the DoH and convenes to assess potential high-impact medicine shortages, with the frequency of the Group's meetings so determined. The Executive provided this information.

#### **Decision Approved and/or Action Requested by Council**

The Report was noted by Council.

### **Agenda Item E.2 Update on Q1 implementation of the Service Plan 2023.**

#### **Issue**

Update on Q2 implementation of the Service Plan 2023.

#### **Information**

The Registrar provided Council with an update on the 2023 Service Plan. She invited questions from Council. Council had no questions.

#### **Decision Approved and/or Action Requested by Council**

Council noted the update.

### **Agenda Item E.3 Request for Approval from Council of the PSI's Draft 2025-2028 Corporate Strategy to be submitted for public consultation.**

#### **Issue**

Request for Approval from Council of the PSI's Draft 2025-2028 Corporate Strategy to be submitted for public consultation.

#### **Information**

A copy of the Draft 2025-2028 Corporate Strategy had been circulated to Council in advance of the meeting. The President invited questions from Council.

Council noted the absence of any reference to the PSI's Values in the document due for public consultation. The Registrar informed Council that work on the PSI's Values was ongoing and that they were likely to remain unchanged and would be referenced in the final draft document, which would be submitted to the Minister. However, it was agreed that the current Values would be included in the draft for public consultation.

Council expressed the view that the phrase “standards-based regulation” was ambiguous and that an additional line was needed in order to outline what it means, both for the pharmacy profession and the public, given the Strategy was a key communication tool for the organisation. It was agreed that a short explanation would be included in the draft for public consultation.

Discussions also took place around the inclusion of PSI’s core activities in the draft Strategy and the use of the phrase ‘Enhance and Align Our Organisation and People’. However, Council noted that the public consultation would provide feedback on the draft Strategy, which would be considered before the draft was finalised. It was noted that there would be an opportunity for both the Strategy Sub-Group of Council and the Council to review the final draft of the Strategy at their meetings in September and October, respectively.

**Decision Approved and/or Action Requested by Council**

**Decision Approved:** Council approved the PSI’s Draft 2025-2028 Corporate Strategy to be submitted for public consultation on the proposal of Mr. Richard Hammond and seconded by Mr. Mark Jordan.

**Agenda Item F.1 Report to Council from the Business Transformation Project Programme Board.**

**Issue**

[Report to Council from the Business Transformation Project Programme Board.](#)

**Information**

In the absence of Ms. Grainne Power, Dr. Paula Barry Walsh presented the Report, a copy of which had been circulated to Council in advance of the meeting. Dr. Barry-Walsh noted that the phase 2 build stage has been completed and that the quality assurance testing phase was progressing, with the change budget used in accordance with the change control process. She invited questions from Council. Council had no questions.

**Decision Approved and/or Action Requested by Council**

The Report was noted by Council.

### Agenda Item G.1 Report to Council from the Performance & Resources Committee.

#### Issue

Report to Council from the Performance & Resources Committee.

#### Information

Dr. Ann McGarry, Chair of the Performance and Resources Committee, presented the Report, a copy of which had been circulated to Council in advance of the meeting. She informed Council that legal advice had been sought with regard to PSI's compliance with the EU NIS 2 Directive. The advice received indicated that NIS 2 did not apply to the PSI. It was agreed, however, that a final decision by the PSI with regard to the matter, would be postponed until publication of the Heads of Bill. Dr. McGarry invited questions from Council. Council had no questions.

#### Decision Approved and/or Action Requested by Council

The Report was noted by Council.

### Agenda Item G.2 Request for Approval of updated PSI Bank signatories.

#### Issue

Request for Approval of updated PSI Bank signatories.

#### Information

Following changes in personnel, Council was asked to approve the appointment of new designated signatories for the PSI's current and deposit bank accounts and its NTMA account with immediate effect.

#### Decision Approved and/or Action Requested by Council

**Decision Approved:** Council approved the appointment of designated signatories for the PSI's current and deposit bank accounts, its NTMA account, with immediate effect, on the proposal of Mr. Martin Higgins and seconded by Mr. Rory O'Donnell.

### Agenda Item G.3 Request for Approval of PSI Management Accounts to March 31st 2024.

#### Issue

Request for Approval of PSI Management Accounts to March 31st 2024.

### Information

A copy of the quarterly management accounts had been circulated to Council in advance of the meeting. Dr. McGarry invited questions from Council. Council had no questions.

### Decision Approved and/or Action Requested by Council

**Decision Approved:** Council approved the PSI quarterly management accounts to March 31st, 2024, on the proposal of Mr. Martin Sisk and seconded by Mr. Peter Dennehy.

### Agenda Item G.4 . Request for Approval of PSI Climate Action Roadmap

### Issue

Request for Approval of PSI Climate Action Roadmap

### Information

A copy of the PSI Climate Action Roadmap had been circulated to Council in advance of the meeting. Dr. McGarry invited questions from Council. Council had no questions.

### Decision Approved and/or Action Requested by Council

**Decision Approved:** Council approved the PSI Climate Action Roadmap on the proposal of Ms. Marie Louisa Power and seconded by Dr. Ann McGarry.

### Agenda Item H.1 Report to Council from the Regulatory and Professional Policy Committee.

### Issue

Report to Council from the Regulatory and Professional Policy Committee.

### Information

A copy of the Report had been circulated to Council in advance of the meeting. Mr. Rory O'Donnell invited questions from Council. Council had no questions.

### Decision Approved and/or Action Requested by Council

The Report was noted by Council.

## Agenda Item H.2 Request for Approval from Council of Amendment to the Revised Third Country Qualification Recognition Route (TCQR)

### Issue

Request for Approval from Council of Amendment to the Revised Third Country Qualification Recognition Route (TCQR).

### Information

Council discussed the proposal and noted the request to remove the mandatory adaptation period from the operationalisation mechanism of the previously approved process. It noted the commitment given by the Executive in its memorandum to Council to review the effectiveness of the revised route. Council advised that language in the policy relating to the decision of the External assessors in respect of the outcome of the holistic assessment of an application should be changed to ‘may’ rather than ‘must’.

### Decision Approved and/or Action Requested by Council

**Decision Approved:** Council approved the Revised Third Country Qualification Recognition Route (TCQR) on the proposal of Mr. Richard Hammond and seconded by Mr. Martin Higgins.

## Agenda Item H.3 Request for Approval from Council of ePortfolio Review Policy 2024/2025.

### Issue

Request for Approval from Council of ePortfolio Review Policy 2024/2025

### Information

A copy of the ePortfolio Review Policy had been circulated to Council in advance of the meeting. Mr. Rory O’Donnell invited questions from Council. Council had no questions.

### Decision Approved and/or Action Requested by Council

**Decision Approved:** Council approved the ePortfolio Review Policy on the proposal of Ms. Marie Louisa Power and seconded by Mr. Peter Dennehy.

## Agenda Item H.4 Request for Approval from Council of updated Regulation 9 Guidance.

### Issue

Request for Approval from Council of updated Regulation 9 Guidance.



**Information**

A copy of the updated Regulation 9 Guidance had been circulated to Council in advance of the meeting. Mr. Rory O’Donnell invited questions from Council. Council queried if there had been any engagement with the Medical Council with regard to the notification period, as this requirement may be perceived as onerous. Council was informed that both the Medical Council and the Irish College of General Practitioners were aware of the requirement.

**Decision Approved and/or Action Requested by Council**

**Decision Approved:** Council approved the updated Regulation 9 Guidance on the proposal of Mr. Richard Hammond, and seconded by Ms. Joan Peppard.

**Agenda Item I.1 Report to Council from the Audit & Risk Committee.**

**Issue**

Report to Council from the Regulatory and Professional Policy Committee.

**Information**

A copy of the Report had been circulated to Council in advance of the meeting. Ms. Geraldine Campbell invited questions from Council. Council had no questions.

**Decision Approved and/or Action Requested by Council**

The Report was noted by Council.

**Agenda Item J – Any Other Business**

**Issue**

Any Other Business

**Information**

None.

**Decision Approved and/or Action Requested by Council**

No item had been for discussion under item D of the agenda.

**The Meeting concluded at 11:10 am.**

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**President**

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**Date**