

Appendix 2

Committees of Council

Medical Council Committee Structure

As well as attending the Governance and Regulatory meetings of Council, Council members will be nominated to serve on either the Preliminary Proceedings Committee or the Fitness to Practise Committee and will also be nominated to another Committee of Council. The current Committee structure is set out below.

Audit and Risk Committee (ARC)

Supports the Council in their responsibilities for issues of risk and control by reviewing the comprehensiveness of assurances in meeting the Council's and Accounting Officer's assurance needs and reviewing the reliability and integrity of these assurances; to ensure compliance with best practice in policies, processes and controls across the organisation and to review and make recommendations on the budget and expenditure of the organization. The Committee meets virtually approximately 4 times per year for approximately 2 hours.

Fitness to Practise Committee (FtPC)

Charged with conducting oral inquiries into doctors' fitness to practise, determining in the region of 90 matters per year, with up to 140 hearing days per year. Each Council Committee member would be expected to attend approximately 12 full day virtual hearings per year. An in person plenary meeting is held once per year in person.

Preliminary Proceedings Committee (PPC)

Charged with giving initial consideration to complaints against registered medical practitioners, in the region of 400 complaints per year. This meets approximately every six weeks to facilitate the expeditious processing of all complaints received against registered medical practitioners. One full meeting, split over two consecutive half days, held virtually with significant reading time (approximately 2-3 days) required in advance.

S. 60 Committee

The Chair shall appoint panels from among the Committee membership to discharge the duties of the Committee. A summary of the main function of the Committee is to decide whether to apply to the High Court to suspend the registration of a medical practitioner to protect the public or to accept an undertaking from or on behalf of a registered medical practitioner in lieu of applying to the High Court if this is sufficient to protect the public until further steps are taken. Standing meetings of the Committee will be scheduled every 10-15 business days as required and may also be held at short notice as/and when necessary.

Education and Training Committee (ETC)

Supports the Council in quality assuring medical education and training in Ireland so that patients can be assured that doctors are adequately prepared to provide good quality care to patients. It does this by ensuring a quality assurance framework that applies the principles of right-touch regulation appropriate for the Irish context yet in keeping with best international regulatory practices. The Committee meets approximately 6 times per year for 2 hours with 1-2 of these meetings in person.

Registration and Continuing Practise Committee (RCPC)

Oversees matters relating to registration of doctors to the Register of Medical Practitioners, Professional Competence, Performance Assessment and registration appeal hearings. The Committee meets approximately 6-8 times per year for 3 hours. The majority of meetings are virtual.

Health Committee (HC)

Monitors and supports doctors to maintain their registration during illness and/or disability. The Committee meets approximately 7 times per year for 2.5 hours) with further 1 hour review sessions required on a monthly basis.

Monitoring Committee (MC)

Monitors compliance by doctors with the conditions imposed on their registration. The Committee meets approximately 6 times per year for 1-2 hours. The majority of meetings are virtual.

Registration Adjudication Committee (RAC)

Determines non-standard applications for registration in the first instance. The Committee meets approximately every 4-5 weeks for 3 hours. The majority of meetings are virtual.

Finance Advisory Committee (FAC)

The Committee is responsible for making recommendations to Council on strategic financial decisions and projects, monitoring and advising on the stability of the Council's financial position and advising the Council on the optimal investment strategy for the Council's investment portfolio. The Committee meets approximately 4 times per year for 1.5 hours with 3 virtual and one in person meeting.

Other Relevant Documentation

- Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies: <https://govacc.per.gov.ie/wp-content/uploads/Code-of-Practice-for-the-Governance-of-StateBodies.pdf>
- Medical Council Corporate Governance Framework: [corporate-governance-framework-.pdf](#)
- Medical Council Annual Report and Financial Statements 2024: www.medicalcouncil.ie/news-and-publications/publications/medical-council-annual-report-and-financial-statements-20241.pdf
- Medical Council Statement of Strategy 2025-2028: [medical-council-statement-of-strategy-2025-2028.pdf](#)