



Public Board Minutes

**MEDCO BOARD MEETING
TIME:**

**TUESDAY 05 APRIL 2022
10:30–13:00**

MEETING PLACE:

Microsoft Teams

DIRECTORS:

Martin Heskins (MH) – Executive Chair
Brian Simpson (BS) – Chartered Society of Physiotherapists
David Bott (DB) – Association of Personal Injury Lawyers
Ian Mackie (IM) N.E.D
John Howells (JH) – N.E.D
Kate Fox (KF) – The Law Society
Nigel Teasdale (NT) – Forum of Insurance Lawyers
Simon Margolis (SM) - AMRO
Surendra Kumar (SK) – British Medical Association
Susan Brown (SB) – Motor Accident Solicitors Society

OBSERVERS ATTENDING THE BOARD:

Adam Ballard (AB) – ABI Representative
Mark Waughman (MW) - MedCo
Nadine Silverton (NS) – MedCo
Scott Tubbritt (ST) – Ministry of Justice

SECRETARIAT:

Jean Gillett – MedCo

APOLOGIES:

Leigh Evans (LE) – Head of Operations MedCo
Jackie Proctor (JP) – Motor Insurers Bureau

1. WELCOME

MH welcomed everyone to the meeting

1.1 Announcements

No announcements

1.2 Board Minutes 03 March 2022

Approved

1.3 Public Board Minutes 03 March 2022

Approved

1. MOJ UPDATE

The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) has published its response to part 2 of the whiplash consultation which closed in January 2017, with no proposals for any immediate reform.

2. RISK REGISTER

The Risk Committee held its second meeting on the 24 February 2022. The draft Terms of Reference were agreed and were included for the Board to consider for sign off.

The Board was informed that the current Risk Management Methodology has been reviewed, and no change is proposed.

The overall risk profile of MedCo is reducing. It was also decided that, with the new MedCo operating model now in place, a further detailed review of the mitigation plans for the Succession Planning and Resilience Risk will be undertaken.

Future meetings of the Risk Committee have been organised quarterly. The next meeting is 11 May 2022.

A further Board update will be provided after the May Risk Committee meeting.

Decision

The Board approved the Terms of Reference.

4. GOVERNANCE

The Board has previously agreed that 3 "governance" committees should be formed to ensure the effective management of the organisation and that the

relevant Committee chairs were to prepare draft terms of reference/membership and report back to the Board to approve.

Decision

The Board approved the draft terms of reference for 3 "governance" committees

5. MONTHLY UPDATES

5.1. Audit

From 1st December 2021, the Motor Insurer's Bureau (MIB) ceased providing auditing services for MedCo. Grant Thornton was appointed from this date to undertake MedCo's User audits and members of the existing MIB/MedCo audit team transferred to Grant Thornton.

In view of current pandemic guidelines, audit site visits have been suspended. Remote on-line audits are continuing to take place.

The Audit Committee continue to monitor use of the system, taking appropriate actions where misuse is identified.

5.2. Operations

The Operations Committee meet regularly to address feedback, queries and complaints from all users of MedCo. Each case is considered on its own merit, and the Committee agree the appropriate action to resolve each issue.

During this reporting period the committee have addressed several queries from litigants in person and have been looking at concerns in relation to causation.

MedCo continues to assist regulators and supports their investigations as required.

5.3. IT

The Report was noted as read

5.4. Education and Training

The Committee continue to meet on a regular basis to ensure the accreditation and CPD framework is maintained and to address any associated day to day issues.

Preparation is underway for the 2022/2023 CPD programme and monitoring continues on the progress of experts through the current CPD year.

5.5 Statistics

The Report was noted as read.

5.6 EAPR

EAPR continue to monitor experts and their data, including data for cases via Official Injury Claims, and apply sanctions where appropriate. The EAPR have produced a communication to all experts to remind them of the need to address causation when it comes to injuries diagnosed.

6. MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS

The accounts were noted as read.

7. AOB

REMOTE EXAMINATIONS

The Board decided at the March Board Meeting that face-to-face examination would be reintroduced as there are no longer any government restrictions regarding Covid-19.

Decision

The Board agreed unanimously to publish the guidance and restart face to face examination from the 1st July but will consider what appropriate steps to take to facilitate vulnerable claimants.

Meeting ended at 13:00