



# February 2026 Public Board Minutes

**MEDCO BOARD MEETING  
TIME:**

**TUESDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2026  
10:00 – 11:30**

**MEETING PLACE:**

**Microsoft Teams**

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**DIRECTORS:**

Martin Heskins (MH)	Executive Chair
Susan Brown (SB)	Motor Accident Solicitors Society
John Howells (JH)	Non-Executive Director
John McQuater (JMQ)	Association of Personal Injury Lawyers
Simon Margolis (SM)	Association of Medical Reporting Organisation
Joanne May (JM)	Gibraltar Insurance Association
Nigel Teasdale (NT)	Forum of Insurance Lawyers

**OBSERVERS ATTENDING THE BOARD:**

Leigh Evans (LE)	Head of Operations MedCo
Mark Waughman (MW)	MedCo
Nadine Silverton (NS)	MedCo
Jean Abbit (JA)	MedCo
Scott Tubbritt (ST)	Ministry of Justice
Richard Patrick (RP)	Ministry of Justice
Alice Stevens (AS)	The Law Society

**APOLOGIES:**

David Bott (DB)	Non-Executive Director
Toks Aluko (TA)	Chartered Society of Physiotherapist
Surendra Kumar (SK)	British Medical Association
Jackie Proctor (JP)	Association of British Insurers

## 1. WELCOME

MH opened the meeting and welcomed AS from the Law Society, who was attending as an observer. He explained to the Board, that the Law Society is still considering its involvement with MedCo. Those present then introduced themselves to AS and outlined their roles.

### 1.1 Declarations of interest/gifts etc.

None

### 1.2 MedCo Board Minutes

21 January 2026 - Approved

### 1.3 MedCo Public Board Minutes

21 January - Approved

### 1.4 Actions

Action list updated

## 2. UPDATES

### 2.1 MOJ Update

The Board was thanked for submitting its PIR (Post-Implementation Review) response on the whiplash reforms, confirming it has been added to the wider review process. Analysis is ongoing, with draft documents being prepared and publication anticipated in early summer.

### 2.2 Head of Operations & Chairs Update.

#### Leeds Combined Court Case

MedCo continues to respond to Court Orders in relation to ongoing litigation. The Board were informed that renewal fee notices have been issued.

## 3. MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS

The board reviewed the latest management accounts and confirmed they are in line with expectations, with nothing of concern raised.

## 4. STATUTORY ACCOUNTS

Draft statutory accounts were presented to the Board.

The Board approved submitting the draft accounts to the auditors, Smith & Williamson, so that they can complete their review. Final audited accounts are expected to be available in June or July. No questions or concerns were raised.

## 5. ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCIES

A working group of 11 representatives, including internal Team members external legal guidance, will meet on 3 March to consider potential changes following a request from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ).

Board members were invited to submit any views or suggestions ahead of the meeting so they can be discussed. The purpose is to explore how MedCo might introduce appropriate oversight or controls over Admin Agencies without the MoJ having to publish and MedCo audit against a designated Qualifying Criteria.

The broader objective is to consider how MedCo can ensure experts continue to comply with their contractual obligations, government policy, and the Civil Procedure Rules (CPR).

## 6. AUT CHARGING SURVEY

The Board reviewed the draft survey aimed at claimant solicitors (AUTS) regarding options for introducing a more equitable charging policy. The survey content was set out in the Board pack and will be issued as an MS Form. No launch or response deadline has yet been agreed.

## 7. COMMITTEE UPDATES

### 7.1 Audit Committee

The Audit Committee is continuing with routine activity. At its last meeting on 27 January, it reviewed audits relating to unrepresented claimant experts, a new MRO audit, a DME audit, and follow-ups on previous audit recommendations.

Grant Thornton remains busy scheduling and conducting audits.

## 7.2 Operations

There has been a recent increase again in compensator payment issues, some of which are more complex than usual, these are being worked through, alongside general queries where experts are being directed to existing guidance and advice.

There is also an increase in complaints about lack of response from experts. The team is monitoring this trend and considering possible causes and solutions.

Overall, it remains business as usual, with these issues being the main current themes.

## 7.3 EAPR

The programme of Expert Quality Assessments remains active, with multiple reviews underway. Follow-up assessments of previously flagged Experts indicate overall improvements in report quality.

Monitoring continues around case data uploads, same-day report completions, and practising address records.

## 7.4 ETC

The Board were informed that two new CPD modules were launched on 2 February:

- Quality Assurance – a mandatory module, which experts must complete within four weeks (currently in week three). Automated reminders will be issued, and experts who fail to complete it will be suspended until they catch up.
- A Best Practice guide which counts toward the required six hours of annual CPD.

New content is in development, including:

- Report standards.

- Non-tariff injuries.

Face-to-face training, paused since COVID, is being reconsidered, subject to cost and feasibility.

## **9.5 IT**

The system continues to operate with 100% availability.

## **9.6 Statistics**

The Board's attention was drawn to the increase in searches and selections in January, noting that this reflects the usual annual trend. December is typically a quiet month, and January always appears high due to the catch-up effect.