

# MedCo November 2024 Board Minutes

**MEDCO BOARD MEETING  
TIME:**

**TUESDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2024  
10:00 – 11:42**

**MEETING PLACE:**

**Microsoft Teams**

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**DIRECTORS:**

Martin Heskins (MH)	Executive Chair
Toks Aluko (TA)	Chartered Society of Physiotherapist
David Bott (DB)	Non-Executive Director
Susan Brown (SB)	Motor Accident Solicitors Society
Brett Dixon (BD)	Association of Personal Injury Lawyers
Kate Fox (KF)	The Law Society
John Howells (JH)	Non-Executive Director
Surendra Kumar (SK)	British Medical Association
Simon Margolis (SM)	Association of Medical Reporting Organisation
Joanne May (JM)	Gibraltar Insurance Association
Jackie Proctor (JP)	Association of British Insurers
Nigel Teasdale (NT)	Forum of Insurance Lawyers

**OBSERVERS ATTENDING THE BOARD:**

Leigh Evans (LE)	Head of Operations MedCo
Nadine Silverton (NS)	MedCo
Mark Waughman (MW)	MedCo
Scott Tubbritt (ST)	Ministry of Justice
Robert Norris (RN)	Ministry of Justice

**SECRETARIAT:**

Jean Abbit (JA)	MedCo
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**APOLOGIES:**

# MedCo November 2024 Board Minutes

## 1. WELCOME

### 1.1 Announcements

None

### 1.2 MedCo Board Minutes from 08 October 2024

Approved

### 1.4 MedCo Public Board Minutes from 08 October 2024

Approved

### 1.5 Board Dates 2024/2025

Included for information.

It was noted that next face to face Board Meeting will be January 2025

## 2. UPDATES

### 2.1 MOJ Update

The Lord Chancellor's statutory review of the Whiplash Injury Regulations, including the injury tariff, is expected imminently, while ministers are considering advice on fixed costs for medical reports.

Additionally, the Lord Chancellor is reviewing advice regarding the discount rate.

Meanwhile, a task force led by the Treasury, with support from the Department of Transport, is being established to review insurance issues.

### 2.2 Head of Operations & Chairs Update

During the recent Official Injury Claims Advisory Group Meeting, concerns were raised about compensators failing to pay medical fees in unrepresented cases. The ABI has taken this matter forward.

The Tech Refresh programme is nearing completion, and MedCo are finalising the new website ahead of its launch on Monday, 18 November. Work also continues on the data protection impact assessment for implementing the Yoti ID application for medical experts

## 3. MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS

The Board were talked through the main highlights of the accounts and agreed the fee for the year end 2024 audit.

## 4. BUDGET AND CHARGING POLICY FOR 2025

The Board was asked to consider the draft Budget and Charging Policy for 2025.

## 5. COMMITTEE UPDATES

### 5.1. Audit

The audit plan is on track and within budget. DME audits, DME LiP audits and AUT audits continue to be reviewed at each meeting. A new MRO registration audit was recently reviewed and approved, and the MRO is now operational on MedCo.

### 5.2 Operations

The issue with Compensators refusing to pay expert fees on OIC claims regardless of the outcome has been flagged to the MoJ and ABI are to raise awareness of the obligation to pay experts.

Regular monitoring of average number of claimants per search, temporary postcode use, and examinations within 24 hours of selection is ongoing.

### 5.3 EAPR

#### MAB Terms of Reference for MAB committee

When the Medical Advisory Board (MAB) was established in 2018, a Heads of Terms document was agreed upon and implemented.

DAC Beachcroft recently reviewed this document and proposed amendments, which were included in a "draft Heads of Terms document" shared in the Board pack. Most changes were minor, aiming to update the document and align it with current procedures and policies.

The Board unanimously agreed to update and reissue the document as recommended by DAC Beachcroft.

## 5.4 Education and Training Committee

The Committee are due to meet later this month to review several new modules including a 'Common Findings' from QA reviews and a "Dos and Don'ts of Report Writing" module. Initial drafts of further new modules on non-tariff injuries and tinnitus are in progress. The Committee are also looking at re-introducing face to face training modules and considering offering CPD points for MedCo events.

## 5.5 I.T. Refresh update

The Board was advised that the IT Refresh project is nearing completion, with a couple of changes and fixes currently being finalised.

The new MedCo website is being finalised.

## 5.6 Statistics

It was highlighted to the Board that October saw the second highest volume of selection this year.

## 6. New MedCo Website

Prior to the Board Meeting the Board were sent links to the new MedCo Website for their feedback. The website content remains the same but with a different look and feel providing a better user journey.

## 7. AOB

### Baker Reign Limited

MedCo have been notified that Baker Reign Ltd are closing, the Board was asked if they wished MedCo to notify their users of the closure.

### Decision

The Board agreed that registered MedCo users should be notified of Baker Reign closure.