

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF
HEALTH INFORMATION AND QUALITY AUTHORITY**

**5 March 2018, Teleconference
8.30 am – 9.30 am**

Present:

Name	Details	Initials
Brian McEnery	Chairperson	BMcE
Martin Sisk	Board Member	MS
Stephen O’Flaherty	Board Member	SOF
Paula Kilbane	Board Member	PK
Barbara O’Neill	Board Member	BON
Molly Buckley	Board Member	MB
Enda Connolly	Board Member	EC
Jim Kiely	Board Member	JK
Deirdre Madden	Board Member	DM
Caroline Spillane	Board Member	CS

In Attendance:

Phelim Quinn	CEO	PQ
Kathleen Lombard	Board Secretary & Chief Risk Officer	KL
Mary Dunnion	Director of Regulation	MD
Aoife McCann	Senior Legal advisor	AMcC

Apologies:

Mary Fennessy	Board Member	MF
Judith Foley	Board Member	JF

1. Quorum

The Chairperson thanked the Board members for making themselves available at short notice for the meeting, the purpose of which is to be briefed on recent developments and to approve the delegation to the CEO for the function of undertaking an investigation under Section 9 of the Health Act.

2. Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

3. Briefing on developments relating to the request by the Minister for a Section 9 Investigation into the safety, quality and standards for safe conduct of obstetric and gynaecological surgery outside of core hours and response to major emergencies at the National Maternity Hospital (NMH)

For the benefit of the new Board members a brief outline of events since the request by the Minister on 3rd November 2017 to date was provided by the Chairperson.

PQ briefed the Board on developments since the Board last met on 26th February when the decision was made by the Board to proceed with the investigation. Since that time HIQA has received notice of the National Maternity Hospital's intention to apply for an injunction to stop HIQA proceeding with the investigation.

AMcC, legal advisor, summarised the current context in relation to the investigation process. She advised that as a result of the Board's decision on 26th February to proceed with the investigation, the delegation to the CEO of the function to undertake the investigation made by the Board on 24th January is not longer valid and in order to proceed with the investigation, needs to be reinstated. The Board is requested to approve the new delegation.

MS proposed approval of the new delegation of the function from the Board to the CEO and MB seconded the proposal; accordingly **it was resolved that the delegation of the function for undertaking a Section 9 investigation into the NMH as requested by the Minister be approved by the Board.**


In response to questions raised by the Board, it was clarified that the timeline in relation to the judicial review proceedings instigated by the NMH, is difficult to estimate. A further briefing will be provided to the Board at the March Board meeting.

4. Any other Business

There was no other business and the meeting was concluded.

Signed


Brian McEnery
Chairperson


Kathleen Lombard
Board Secretary