

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

21 April 2026, 4:00pm – 5:30pm

MS Teams

Present:

Name	Details	Initials
Martin O'Halloran	Chairperson	MOH
Bernadette Costello	Board Member	BC
Leonie Clarke	Board Member	LC
Marion Meany	Board Member	MM
Martin Higgins	Board Member	MH
Daniel McConnell*	Board Member	DMC
Frank O'Donnell	Board Member	FOD
Jim Kiely	Board Member	JK

In Attendance:

Name	Details	Initials
Angela Fitzgerald	Chief Executive Officer	AF
Marty Whelan*	Head of Communications and Stakeholder Engagement	MW
Zoe Forde*	Communications Manager	ZF
Susan Cliffe*	Deputy Chief Inspector Social Services	SC
Karen Egan	Board Secretary	KE
Mary O'Connor	Governance Officer	MOC
Rachel O'Connor	Board and Committee Executive	ROC

*Joined for part of the meeting

Apologies:

Name	Position	Initials
Clíodhna Foley-Nolan	Board Member	CFN

1.0 Quorum

A quorum was present and the meeting was duly convened.

2.0 Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

3.0 Emerging Issues and risks

No emerging issues and risks were brought to the Board for discussion.

4.0 Annual Report 2025

The Board noted the Annual Report 2025 previously circulated.

Marty Whelan (MW), Head of Communications and Stakeholder Engagement and Zoe Forde (ZF), Communications Manager joined the meeting.

MOH presented the Annual Report 2025 and highlighted the following:

- The format and content had been revised to reflect the outcomes focus within the Corporate Plan 2025-2027 and the Board's request that all of our publications reflect the impact of our work.
- The report is structured around the 4 outcomes within the Corporate Plan and includes storytelling from the service user perspective and effective use of quotes from service users and infographics to amplify the outcomes of our work.
- In accordance with Section 37 of the Health Act 2007, HIQA must prepare the Annual Report for submission to the Minister for Health by 30 April each year. The Minister will subsequently lay copies of the report before the Houses of the Oireachtas.
- Following publication of the Annual Report, there will be a launch event arranged for HIQA staff.

The Board thanked MW and ZF for the comprehensive and well-structured Annual Report and welcomed the following:

- The tribute to former HIQA Chairperson, Pat O'Mahony.
- The transformation in presentation and style to support the focus on outcomes and the impact of our work.
- The inclusion of comments from service users and residents.
- A small number of editorial changes that needed to be made in the Report.

In response to a query from the Board, it was clarified that the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) is currently undertaking the external audit of the 2025 Accounts. As in 2024, the Accounts will be published at a later date when the audit is completed.

AF acknowledged the contribution of staff across the organisation in the preparation of the Annual Report, and in particular, recognised the leadership and input of ZF in supporting the re-design and development of the Report.

MH proposed approval of the Annual Report 2025 and MM seconded the proposal; **accordingly, it was unanimously resolved that the Annual Report 2025 be approved by the Board, subject to minor amendments as outlined.**

MW and ZF left the meeting at this point.

5.0 HTA of immunisation against RSV

The Board noted the papers previously circulated.

JK introduced the HTA of immunisation against RSV. He noted that there had been an in-depth discussion at the recent Standards, Information, Research and Technology (SIRT) Committee meeting and the HTA had been recommended by the Committee for Board approval. JK highlighted that the timeline for the HTA had been extended to allow sufficient time for the volume of responses received as part of the public consultation process.

The Board noted that significant work had been undertaken on this HTA. The Board also noted the Authority's remit in providing independent and evidence-based research to support decision making processes.

JK proposed approval of the HTA of immunisation against RSV and MM seconded the proposal; **accordingly, it was unanimously resolved that the HTA of immunisation against RSV be approved by the Board.**

6.0 Committee Membership

The Board noted the paper previously circulated which proposed the following Committee reappointments:

- DMC to be reappointed to the Resources Oversight Committee for a period of three years with effect from 01 June 2026.
- MH to be reappointed to the ARGC for a period of three years with effect from 01 June 2026.

MOH proposed approval of the Committee appointments and BC seconded the proposal; **accordingly, it was resolved that the Committee appointments be approved by the Board.**

7.0 Review of Regulatory Inspection Process

Susan Cliffe (SC), Deputy Chief Inspector Social Services, joined the meeting.

MOH provided the Board with an update on the recent meeting of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee (ARGC) and highlighted the following points:

- Forvis Mazars had provided an update to the Committee on the Review of Regulatory Inspection Process.
- The Committee noted the recommendations in the draft report.

- The Committee requested that presentational and layout issues be addressed by Forvis Mazars including the clear presentation of supporting evidence for all findings and recommendations.
- The structuring of all suggested actions under a smaller number of recommendations to enable effective communication and tracking of implementation.

AF advised that an updated draft report would be brought back to the upcoming ARGC meeting. An update would also be provided to the Minister of State at the Department of Health with special responsibility for Older People.

SC and DMC left the meeting.

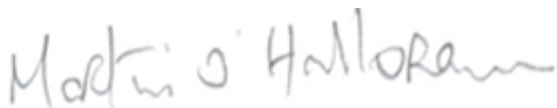
8.0 Any other business

MOH provided an update on his recent meetings with the Minister for Health and the Department of Health.

MOH thanked the Board members, and in particular the ARGC members, for their time and input.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 5.40pm.

Signed



Martin O'Halloran
Chairperson



Karen Egan
Board Secretary