

August 2017

BSO Ophthalmic Committee TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The HSC Business Services Organisation (BSO) is responsible for providing a broad range of regional businesses support functions and specialist professional services to the health and social care sector in Northern Ireland and is established under the Health and Social (Reform) Act (NI) 2009 (The Reform Act). To discharge its functions effectively, the BSO has established a number of Committees to engage its key stakeholders in the development and delivery of its business.
- 1.2 Under the General Ophthalmic Services (GOS) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007, the BSO is required to constitute a Committee, known as the Ophthalmic Committee, to advise and assist the BSO and Health and Social Care Board (HSCB) in the duties assigned to it.

2. PURPOSE

- 2.1 The BSO Ophthalmic is a Statutory Committee constituted for the purposes of carrying out duties assigned to it by the Health and Personal Social Services (General Ophthalmic Services) Regulations (NI) 2007 and is appointed by the Business Services Organisation. Its main role is to consult and engage with practising Community Ophthalmic Practitioners (Optometrists, Ophthalmic Medical Practitioners and Dispensing Opticians) on the services provided by BSO.

3. REMIT and SCOPE

- 3.1 Advise on matters related to the Ophthalmic List.
- 3.2 Consult and advise on regional Continued Optometric Education, Continued Professional Development events.
- 3.3 Consult and advise on Ophthalmic payment systems, service administrative issues, and potential or planned service developments and the impact that these might have on delivery of GOS.
- 3.4 Advise on GOS Clinical Practice provision and activity trends and probity issues and possible reasons for changes in statistical trends.
- 3.5 Consult and advise on clinical matters where a practitioner perspective may be helpful and on any other matters in respect of GOS professional issues and payments, as required.

4. MEMBERSHIP

- 4.1 The term of office shall be determined by the BSO. The Chair is a Ministerial appointment. This process is administered by the Public Appointments Unit (PAU).
- 4.2 The BSO deem that in the interests of equity the term of office is to be set at four years.
- 4.3 Each member can serve a maximum of two consecutive terms.
- 4.4 Members are encouraged to consult with and canvas opinion from community ophthalmic practitioners in their Local Commissioning Group areas or areas of practise.
- 4.5 The Regulations allow for the BSO to appoint members to this Committee after consultation with the HSCB and representative organisations of ophthalmic medical practitioners and ophthalmic opticians/optometrists and such other bodies as appear to it to be concerned.
- 4.6 Members are entitled to an attendance fee in accordance with Schedule 5 of Circular HSS (F) 27/2009. Members are also entitled to deputising

expenses/financial loss allowance in accordance with Schedule 4 of the Circular.

5. FREQUENCY AND TIMING OF MEETINGS

- 5.1 The Ophthalmic Committee usually meets 4 times per year.
- 5.2 The BSO will support the arrangements for the Ophthalmic Committee meetings by providing the secretariat who will arrange for the distribution of agendas, papers and taking a note of meetings.

6. ENDORSEMENT

- 6.1 These Terms of Reference were approved by the Ophthalmic Committee on 26 September 2017.