Extracted from *Maintenance of Professional Competence Guidelines* document issued by Medical Council, May 2025

Stakeholder Responsibilities (page 7, MPC Guidelines document)

The Role of the Medical Council

- To fulfil its duty to satisfy itself that doctors on its register are maintaining their professional competence, the Medical Council establishes one or more professional competence schemes (Scheme) and develops Rules and guidelines. The Guidelines define the framework for the maintenance of professional competence of doctors (the 'MPC Framework'), standards that bodies must comply with when operating a Scheme, and criteria to receive accreditation from the Medical Council. The Guidelines have been developed to provide consistency and promote effectiveness in the way doctors maintain professional competence and Schemes are operated.

The Role of Postgraduate Training Bodies

- Postgraduate Training Bodies are recognised by the Medical Council as being responsible for implementing the MPC Framework, through the operation of Schemes which facilitate doctors to plan, engage and record their CPD. Training Bodies have the expertise and knowledge to support doctors' maintenance of professional competence, deliver Schemes, as well as provide accredited education. Section 4 of the Guidelines provides more details on the role of Training Body in operating a Scheme.

The Role of the Employer

- Employers, both public and private (including the HSE), facilitate doctors to maintain their professional competence pursuant to a Scheme applicable to the doctors. Employers should consider how they fulfill this responsibility and how best they can support doctors on this through collaboration with stakeholders, including Training Bodies.

The Role of the Doctor

- The Act (section 94) specifies that doctors shall maintain their professional competence. Doctors are responsible for identifying their CPD needs, planning how those needs should be addressed and undertaking CPD that will support their professional ddvelopment and practice. The MPC Framework details the model and the annual minimum requirements that must be achieved and recorded to demonstrate maintenance of professional competence. While Schemes are established to facilitate a doctor's maintenance of professional competence, the responsibility for this rests with the individual doctor. Further details on doctors' obligations are highlighted in Section 7 of the Guidelines.

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The CPD system in the Republic of Ireland (page 5, MPC Guidelines document)

