



**RESUS**

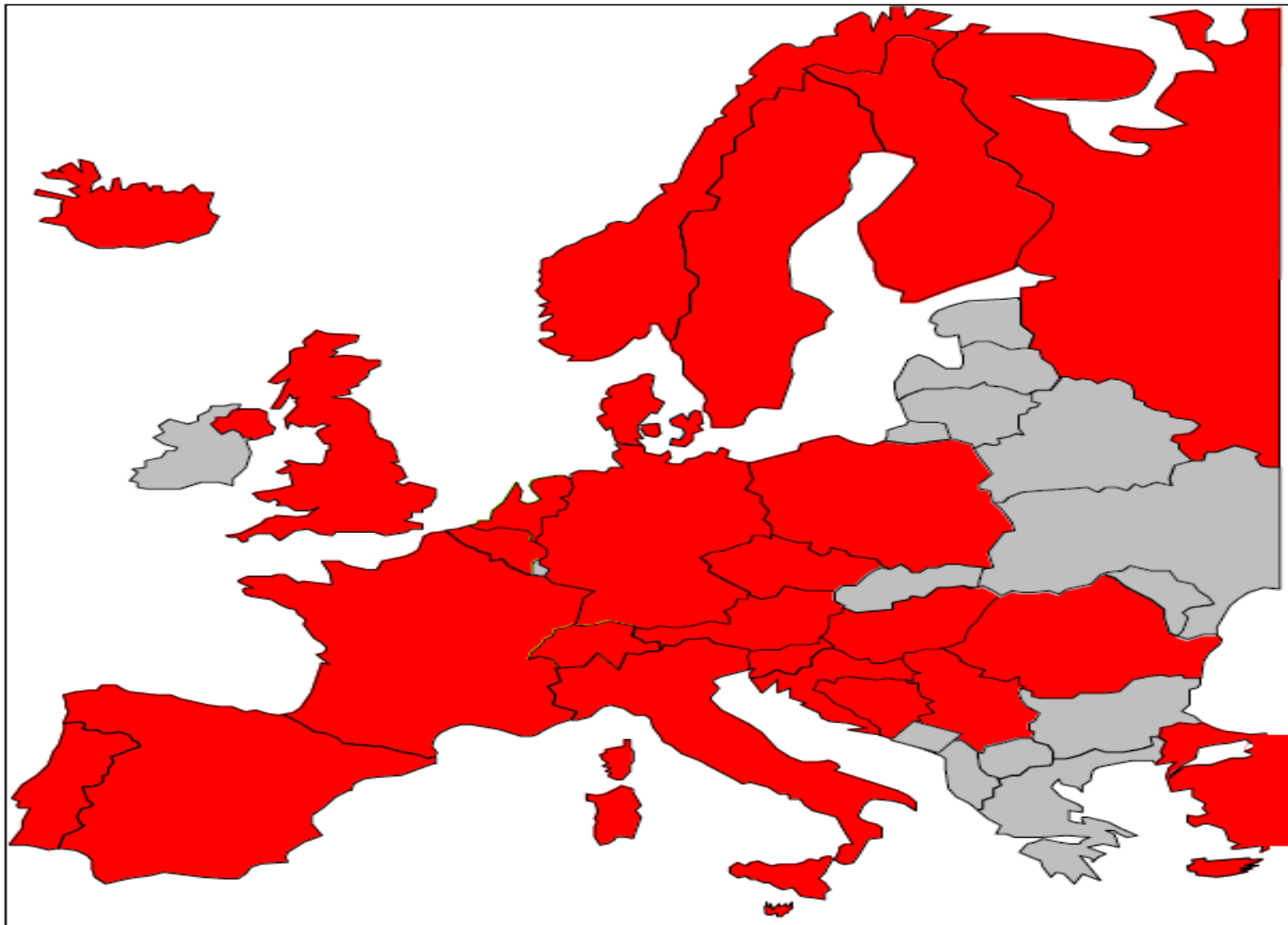
**April 2013**





**BUSINESS  
CASE**

Exploring the requirement for Ireland becoming a member of the European Resuscitation Council and to examine the options for a National Resuscitation Council in Ireland

## Map of European Countries with ERC Membership



-  Member of the European Resuscitation Council. (Non-European members include Egypt, Tunisia and UAE)
-  Not a member of the European Resuscitation Council.

APPENDIX 3: COMPARISON OF FUNCTIONS – PHECC AND THREE NATIONAL RESUSCITATION COUNCILS

Organisation	Resuscitation Council (UK)	Malta Resuscitation Council	The Australian Resuscitation Council	PHECC
Purpose	<i>To facilitate education of both lay and healthcare professional members of the population in the most effective methods of resuscitation appropriate to their needs</i>	<i>To preserve life by improving standards of resuscitation in Malta and to co-ordinate the activities of various organizations involved in resuscitation and emergency medical care</i>	<i>To provide a forum for discussion on all aspects of resuscitation</i>	<i>PHECC has responsibility for standards in education and training in the field of pre-hospital emergency care. PHECC's primary role is to protect the public.</i>
<b>Functions</b>				
Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>To encourage research into methods of resuscitation</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Promoting and co-coordinating appropriate research</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Foster research into methods of teaching and practice of resuscitation</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>PHECC engages in research into pre-hospital emergency care, including emerging technology; education and training; the formulation of experimental curricula; and the evaluation of existing courses and assessment and examination procedures</i></li> </ul>
Teaching Techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>To study resuscitation teaching techniques</i></li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Gather and collate scientific information regarding resuscitation techniques; to recommend a modification of those techniques where appropriate on the basis of such information</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>PHECC recognises institutions providing education and training to persons pursuing NQEMT</i></li> <li>• <i>PHECC assesses the suitability of the education and training in pre-hospital emergency care and standards of knowledge required for qualifications obtained inside and outside the State according to Statute</i></li> </ul>

<p><b>Guidelines</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>To establish appropriate guidelines for resuscitation procedures</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Disseminate guidelines and recommendations appropriate to Malta for the practice of cardiopulmonary and cerebral resuscitation and update these guidelines in the light of critical review of CPR practice</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Develop and publish Guidelines</i></li> <li>• <i>Review and update guidelines by consultation with member bodies and other experts</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>PHECC prepares clinical practice guidelines for pre-hospital emergency care across six defined levels of pre-hospital emergency care.</i></li> <li>• <i>PHECC reviews and updates the clinical practice guidelines periodically, ensuring that they are fit-for-purpose, evidence based, and relevant to the needs of the patients, practitioners and services</i></li> <li>• <i>PHECC makes these guidelines available to pre-hospital emergency care service providers and others as appropriate</i></li> <li>• <i>PHECC formally recognises those pre-hospital emergency care providers which undertake to implement the clinical practice guidelines and standards of operation.</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Promotion of Teaching</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>To promote the teaching of resuscitation as established in the guidelines</i></li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Promote simplicity and uniformity in techniques and terminology</i></li> <li>• <i>Promulgate information regarding resuscitation</i></li> </ul>	

Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>To establish and maintain standards for resuscitation</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Designing standardized teaching programs suitable for all trainees in Malta ranging from the lay public to the qualified physician</i></li> <li>• <i>Encouraging audit of resuscitation practice including standardization of records of resuscitation attempts.</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>pursue the development of standards for training</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>PHECC develops and disseminates standards of operation for service providers to support best practice by pre-hospital emergency care practitioners.</i></li> </ul>
Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>To foster good working relations between all organisations involved in resuscitation and to produce and publish training aids and other literature concerned with the organisation of resuscitation and its teaching</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Promoting political and public awareness of resuscitation requirements and practice in Malta.</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Establish regular communications with other bodies with similar objectives, both in Australia and overseas</i></li> <li>• <i>Provide a forum for discussion of all aspects of resuscitation</i></li> <li>• <i>Provide an advisory and resource service regarding techniques, equipment, teaching methods and teaching aids</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>PHECC promotes awareness of pre hospital emergency care techniques/policy through a range of media</i></li> </ul>

A National Resuscitation Council within the ERC is an organisation, accepted by the ERC Board, and is based on the characteristics outlined in Table 1 below:

- A. It is a legal body
- B. Has a mission and goal in line with the ERC's mission and goal
- C. Has a multidisciplinary and interprofessional membership within a transparent structure
- D. Is an authority on resuscitation at a national level, recognised by the major organisations involved in resuscitation in that country
- E. Is willing to collaborate with the ERC in auditing resuscitation courses within their country
- F. Is willing to comply to democratically decided ERC rules and regulations, including European Resuscitation Guidelines
- G. Is an organisation with the commitment to attend ERC meetings and co-operate in the functioning of the ERC

**Table 1 ERC Membership - Assessment of Characteristics**

The typical process for a NRC applying for membership of the ERC consists of the following eight steps:

1. An application for co-operation is submitted to the ERC which includes an introduction session and a vetting process against the characteristics outlined in Table 1 above
2. ERC discusses the application and results of the vetting process
3. A meeting is held between the key players of both the NRC and ERC
4. The ERC Board makes a decision on whether to proceed with the membership process
5. If successful, the NRC and ERC sign a Memorandum of Understanding (duration 1-3 yrs)
6. At the end of Memorandum of Understanding duration, the NRC is evaluated by the ERC
7. Full agreement on the NRC's membership application is made based on the evaluation
8. The NRC is subject to evaluation in the third year of membership agreement

**Table 2 Application Process for the ERC**



## APPENDIX 2 – CONSULTATION PARTICIPANTS

A comprehensive list of those who participated in the consultation process is presented below:

- Mark Doyle, Emergency Medicine Consultant and Chair of ACLS Committee, IHF
- Fergal Hickey, Emergency Medicine Consultant and Chair of IAEM
- Stephen Cusack, Emergency Medicine Consultant and Professor of Emergency Medicine, Cork University Hospital
- Gerry Bury, Professor of General Medicine, UCD and Director of HSE MET
- Mark Dixon, Advanced Paramedic and Academic
- Patricia Fitzpatrick, Course Facilitator, Royal College of Surgeons Ireland
- Anthea Savage, Chair of Irish Association of Resuscitation Officers
- Neil Reddy, Medical Director - Code Blue
- Anne Marie Ryan, An Bord Altranas
- Valerie Small, Advanced Nurse Practitioner
- Ross Hattaway, Department of Health
- Bart Vissers, CEO of European Resuscitation Council
- Luciano Alselmi, President of Swiss Resuscitation Council

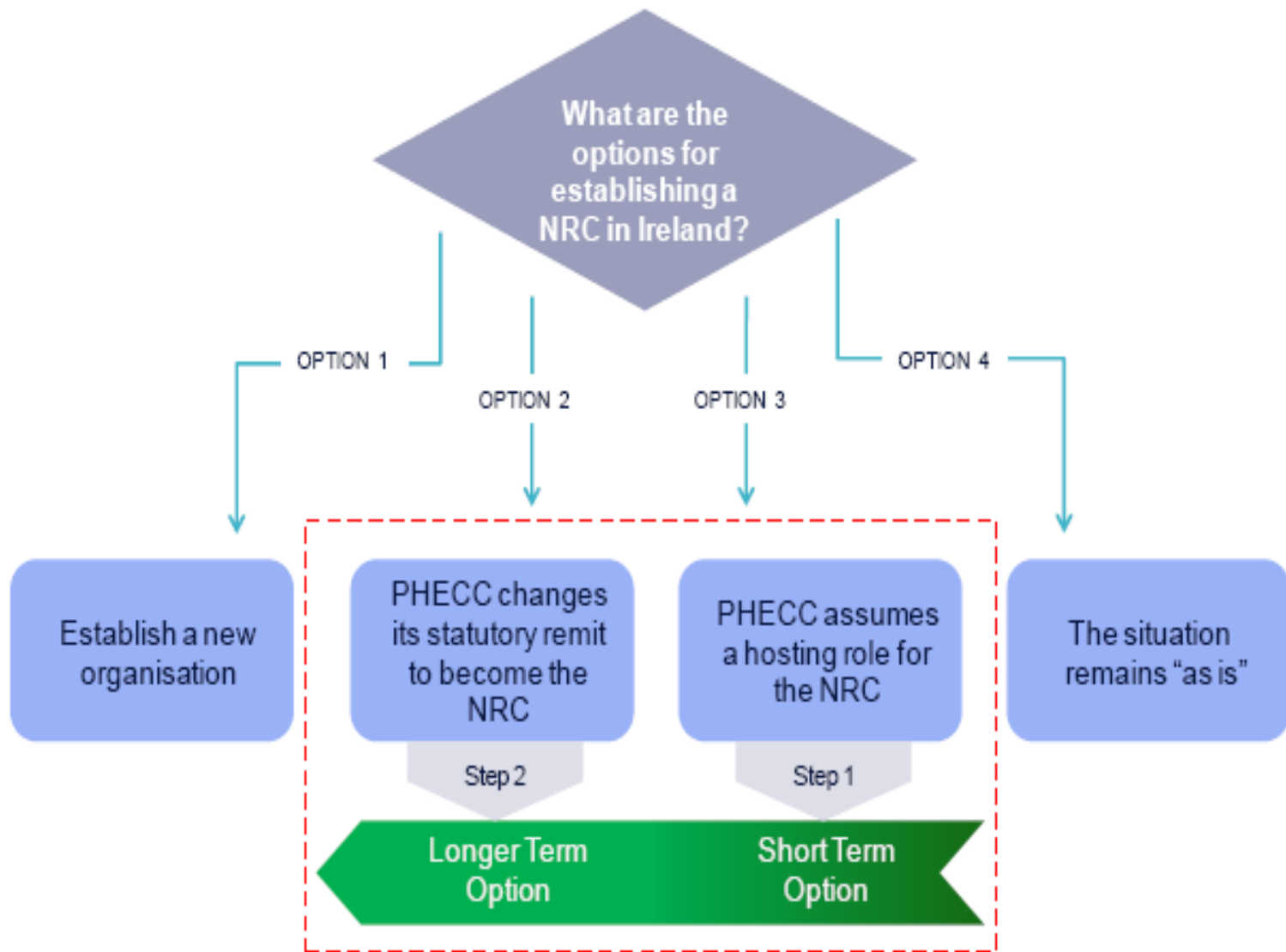


Figure 2 Recommended Path for the Establishment of a NRC in Ireland

It is suggested that the implications outlined under each option are considered and that the following steps are undertaken by PHECC:

- \* It is recommended that considerable consultation is undertaken prior to the establishment of a NRC

Participants in the consultation process suggest that the following aspects contribute to the lack of an integrated approach to resuscitation:

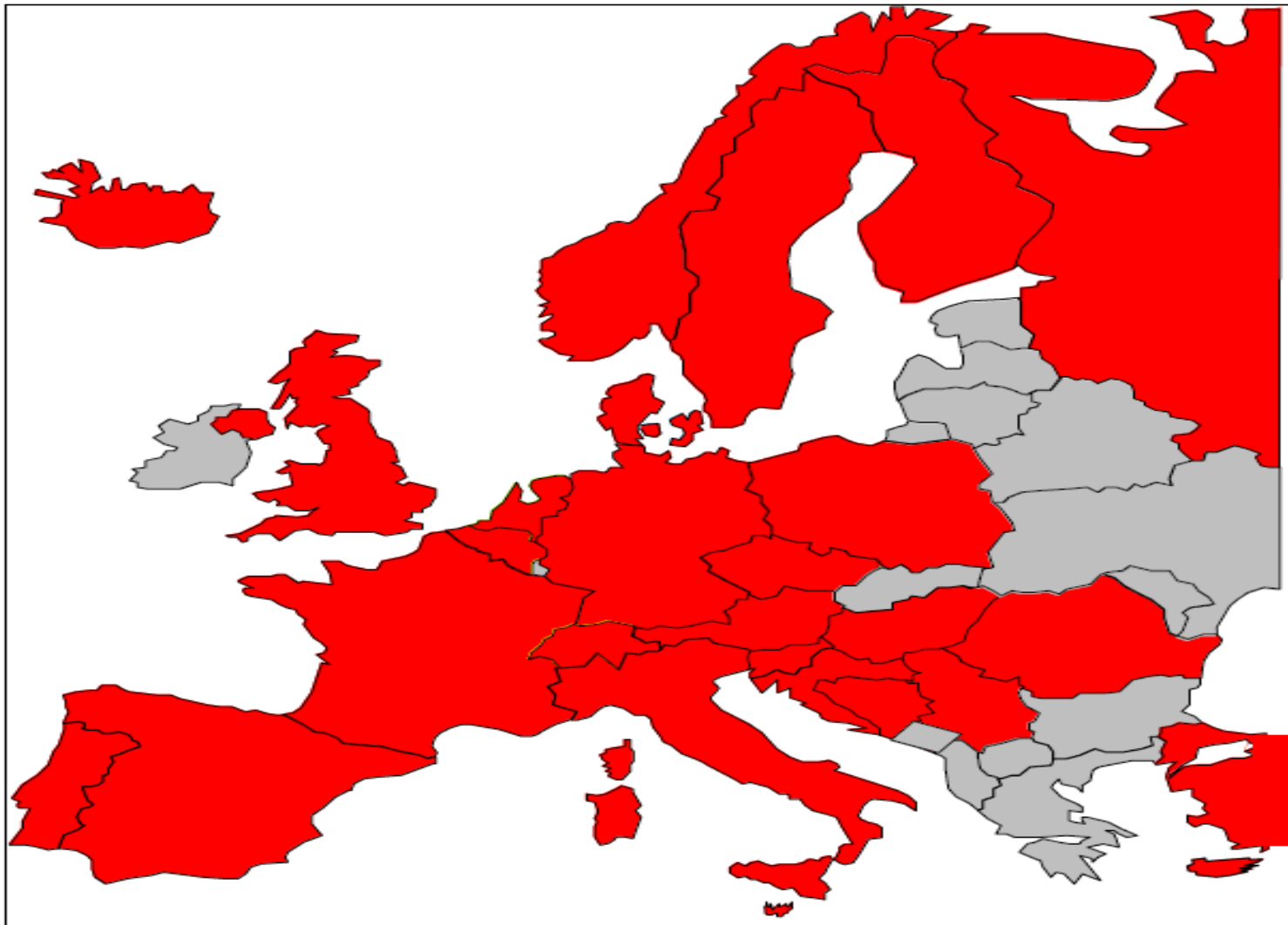
- \* The absence of a NRC in Ireland which promotes a unified approach to resuscitation standards and practises
- \* Lack of mandate from the HSE on which resuscitation guidelines should be adhered to. Hospitals are free to decide which guidelines their staff should follow as a consequence. It was suggested that the standards adopted in the country in which the Clinical Director of a hospital/hospital department completed their medical training will often influence the standards of resuscitation practise within the hospital in which they are currently employed e.g. those trained in the US follow the AHA guidelines



- \* The fact that in the mid-1990's, when resuscitation training practises were becoming more widespread in Ireland, training instructors were drawn to American guidelines because of the high quality training materials being produced by the AHA. At the times, the ERC did not have its own training materials and, according to a number of consultation participants, the AHA materials were superior to those of the RC-UK. Therefore, the quality and availability of training materials had a major influence on the roll-out of AHA training across Ireland

- No hybrid model presently exists?
- Harmonisation is taking place in Europe
- There is a need to link in with Europe
- As things stand Ireland has no voice into the ERC or AHA

- A positive relationship exists between PHECC and the Irish Heart Foundation
- The proposed National Patient Safety Authority may have an interest

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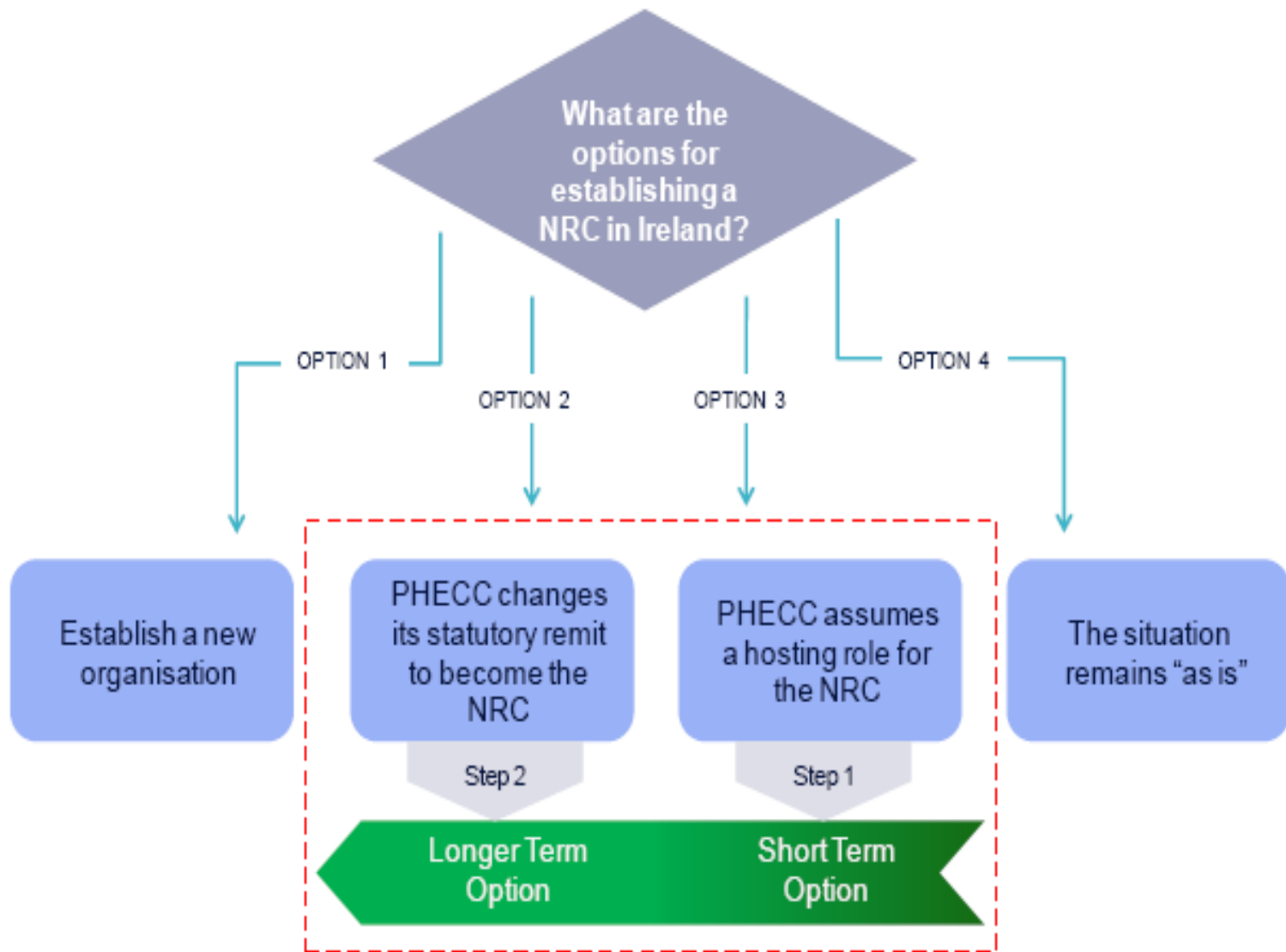


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