Council meeting 7 February 2013

Public business

**Chief Executive & Registrar’s report**

**Purpose**
To keep the Council abreast of significant recent meetings and developments.

**Recommendation**

The Council is asked to note this paper.

1.0 **Recent meetings**

1.1 Listed in Appendix 1 is a non-exhaustive selection of significant meetings held during the two months since the last Council meeting.

1.2 Council members are reminded to liaise with the office before accepting external invitations to speak on behalf of the GPhC, in order to minimise overlap and to ensure they have the most up-to-date supporting material.

2.0 **Council member appointments 2013**

2.1 The appointments process has now concluded. A press release was issued on 18 January 2013 detailing the names of the successful appointees and can be found on the GPhC website.

3.0 **Council workshop 13 December 2012**

3.1 At the December Council workshop Council had an informal initial discussion of the 2013-16 Corporate plan and priorities for future work.
3.2 Council also received updates on revalidation and the GPhC accommodation strategy and were reminded of the process for making policy through open and transparent consultation.

4.0 Professional Standards Authority (PSA; formerly CHRE) FtP initial stages audit

4.1 In December the PSA (which changed its name from CHRE on 1 December) published its latest audit of the initial stages of our FTP process: http://www.professionalstandards.org.uk/regulators/overseeing-regulators/early-fitness-to-practise-decisions/early-fitness-to-practise-decisions-detail?id=2ac9bfff-0965-4447-9c4c-0a8b85f795c2. This is distinct from the performance review but a complementary part of the PSA’s oversight process.

4.2 The report makes encouraging reading albeit, as we know ourselves, there is always more to do and scope for improvement.

4.3 The frequency of this audit is based on their risk assessment of the regulators. We have been audited in 2011 and 2012 because of the risks associated with so much change and acknowledged challenges. The PSA has just published its audit programme for next year; we are pleased to see that we are not on it.

5.0 PSA performance review

5.1 The GPhC submitted its evidence for the 2012-13 performance review to the PSA on 3 December.

5.2 The next step in the review process will be a letter from the PSA, due at the end of January/first week of February, in which they will ask supplementary questions after having reviewed our submission. We will then have a formal review meeting with the PSA to discuss our submission on 6 March.

6.0 Rebalancing update

6.1 The GPhC is involved in discussions with other professional and regulatory bodies in pharmacy to consider the ‘balance’ between medicines legislation and statutory independent professional regulation, and whether improvements can be made.

6.2 The UK chief pharmaceutical officers (CPhOs) recently made a joint statement on the initiative: “Professional practice in pharmacy has changed in recent years to become considerably more clinical in nature. This is set to expand further.
Now is the time to consider the interplay of the medicine supply components of medicines legislation and GPhC and [Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland] PSNI regulation, and how they impact on patient and public safety and professional practice.”

The full text of the statement can be found on the Department of Health (DH) website at http://www.dh.gov.uk/health/2012/10/cpo-statement/.

6.3 More recently, the GPhC gave a presentation to the DH Pharmacy Supervision Project Board that sought to establish clarity around decision making, and set out the parameters which would shape the involvement of statutory regulators within the programme.

7.0 Holyrood reception

7.1 The GPhC held a joint reception in the Scottish Parliament together with the other largest health and social care professions regulators in Scotland: the General Medical Council (GMC), the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC), the General Dental Council (GDC), the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC), and the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC).

7.2 The purpose of the event was to raise the profile of the regulators specifically within the Scottish Parliament. The reception, which was well attended by senior MSPs, researchers etc., succeeded in these objectives, and provided a good platform for future work in the Scottish parliament and for future collaborative work with the other health and social care professions regulators.

8.0 Modernising Pharmacy Careers (MPC) England

8.1 MPC has announced that it will be undertaking further work, including an impact analysis, to progress its core proposals for the reform of initial education and training for pharmacists in England - a five-year integrated MPharm degree including pre-registration training. Ministers have agreed that student numbers should be controlled and have commissioned the Centre for Workforce Intelligence to forecast the level at which student numbers should be set to balance supply and demand. Other plans in the proposals include a revised funding methodology, including clinical funding. There will be a brief engagement with stakeholders before proposals are finalised.

8.2 MPC’s proposals are English proposals and will impact on the other countries in GB, where the GPhC is monitoring developments closely.

8.3 The GPhC will need to look at its learning outcomes for initial education and
training in consultation with stakeholders and consider the impact of MPC implementation on its education function. In anticipation of this, planning work has been taking place for some time. New appointments will be made in 2013 to make further planning possible.

9.0 Inspection model

9.1 Sounding boards
The first meetings of the sounding boards in England, Scotland, and Wales, focused on a working draft of the inspection decision framework, which sets out indicators and examples of what registered pharmacies will need to show to demonstrate that they are complying with the new standards. Particularly helpful were the country-specific issues raised by members.

9.2 The constructive work undertaken and feedback from the sounding boards will help to inform the next draft of the decision framework. The next meetings of the sounding boards are set to take place in early 2013, and will focus on different aspects of the inspection model.

9.3 Inspection Development Assurance Group (IDAG)
The Council has established a small group to work with members of the management team to review and quality assure the development of the new inspection framework as a key part of the transition process to implement the new standards for registered pharmacies that Council approved at the September Council meeting. The first meeting of the Group has been arranged for 31 January. Group members include Ray Jobling, Gordon Dykes, Keith Wilson and Tina Funnell.

9.4 Patient and public engagement events
Patient and public engagement events are currently being conducted in each of the three countries to explore what information the public would find helpful in inspection visit outcomes reports.

10.0 IT transition project update

10.1 The project to transfer IT services from RPS to Advanced 365 has been completed and a project closure meeting was held on 5 December 2012.

11.0 Chair’s leave

11.1 GPhC Chair Bob Nicholls is out of the country from 30 December 2012 - 31 January 2013. The Council member who is rostered during that period to chair meetings of the Council, should the need arise, is Celia Davies.
12.0 **Consultations**

12.1 A list of active consultations with which the organisation is or is not engaging is included at Appendix 1.

**Recommendation**

The Council is asked to note this paper.

*Duncan Rudkin, Chief Executive & Registrar*
*General Pharmaceutical Council*
*duncan.rudkin@pharmacyregulation.org*, tel 020 3365 3501

17 January 2013
List of Meetings

Listed below is a non-exhaustive selection of significant meetings held during the three months since the last Council meeting. Initials are as follows: Bob Nicholls (RMN), Duncan Rudkin (DR), Claire Bryce-Smith (CBS), Bernard Kelly (BK), Hugh Simpson (HS), Elaine Mulingani (EM):

Chair:
- UK postgraduate Pharmacy Education Directors – update meeting (with DR)
- Guy’s and St Thomas’ Annual Lecture
- Chief Pharmaceutical Officer for England – update meeting
- President & Vice President, Association of Pharmacy Technicians UK (APTUK) - update meeting (with DR)
- Kevin Barron MP- update meeting (with DR)
- Chair, RPS English Pharmacy Board & RPS Director of England – update meeting (with DR)
- King’s Fund Annual Reception
- Chair, Nursing & Midwifery Council (NMC) – update meeting
- King’s Fund Board Leadership Programme Seminar - The future for health and social care - What’s on the horizon?
- Department of Health (DH) Pharmacy Supervision Project – Board Meeting (with DR)
- King’s Fund Board Leadership Programme Seminar - Boards and their role in assuring quality care
- President & Chief Executive, Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) - update meeting (with DR)
- GPhC Staff Day – Keynote address
- Chair, Pharmacy Research UK – update meeting (with DR)
- Chief Pharmacist & Consultant Pharmacist, John Radcliffe Hospital – visit (with DR)
- Institute of Healthcare Management Event – Public Health in the New World
- President & Director for England, Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) and the Chairman & Director of the Pharmacists’ Defence Association (PDA) – update meeting (with DR, HS and Celia Davies)

Staff:
- UK Postgraduate Pharmacy Education Directors – update meeting (DR with RMN and HS)
- Department of Health (DH) – meeting on rebalancing (DR, HS)
- Visit with Inspector – Glasgow area (DR)
• NHS Education for Scotland (NES) Conference – 10 years back, 10 years forward (DR)
• Delegation from Montenegro, Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) – speaking (DR)
• Committee of Advertising Practise – meeting about advertising remote prescribing (HS)
• Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education (CPPE) – Stakeholder and User Advisory Board (HS)
• Visit with dispensing doctor – Horsmonden (CBS)
• President & Vice-President, Association of Pharmacy Technicians UK (APTUK) – update meeting (DR with RMN)
• Kevin Barron MP – update meeting (DR with RMN)
• Head of Pharmacy, Armed Forces – introductory meeting (DR)
• Chair, RPS English Pharmacy Board & RPS Director of England – update meeting (with RMN)
• Associate Director, Medicines Management, NHS South of England – update meeting (DR, HS, CBS)
• Superintendent Pharmacist, Sainsbury’s – meeting (CBS)
• Chief Executive and Registrar, Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland (to review working of MoU) (DR, EM)
• Heads of Schools of Pharmacy, Queen’s University & University of Ulster (DR, EM)
• Modernising Pharmacy Careers Board Meeting (DR)
• Pharmacy Round Table – Following Up on the Future of Community – (HS)
• Home Office Poisons Board Meeting (CBS)
• Department of Health (DH) Professional Standards liaison regular meeting (DR, CBS, EM, HS)
• Department of Health (DH) – Pharmacy Supervision Project Board (DR)
• Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) – ‘Professionalism, Leadership and Culture in Large Pharmacy Organisations’ (DR with HS)
• President & Chief Executive, Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) – update meeting (DR with RMN)
• North West London Local Education & Training Board (LETB) Stakeholder Advisory Council - briefing meeting (HS)
• Health Regulator Heads of Chair’s & CEOs’ Offices – meeting to share best practice (EM)
• National Controlled Drugs meeting (CBS)
• Chair, Pharmacy Research UK – update meeting (DR with RMN)
• Chief Pharmacist & Consultant Pharmacist, John Radcliffe Hospital – visit (with RMN)
• Director of Resources, General Optical Council – meeting (BK)
• Chief Pharmaceutical Officer for England – update meeting (DR)
• Assistant Surveillance Commissioner, Office of Surveillance Commissioners (OSC) – meeting on the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (DR, CBS)
• National Clinical Assessment Service (NCAS) – Learn & Lunch event – speaking (HS)
• University College London (UCL) School of Pharmacy lecture (DR and Celia Davies)
• Director of Professional Development & Support, RPS – update meeting (HS)
• Superintendent Pharmacist, ASDA – meeting (HS)
• Health Regulators Directors of Resources meeting (BK)
• Sounding Board Events – Cardiff, Edinburgh & Wales (CBS)
• United Kingdom Public Health Register (UKPHR) Board Meeting (DR)
• Care Quality Commission (CQC) National Pharmacy Team Meeting (HS)
• Scottish Care Inspectorate meeting (CBS)
• All Party Parliamentary Group – decriminalising dispensing errors – speaking (DR)
• Department of Health Stakeholder briefing meeting – rebalancing (DR, HS)
• Chief Executive, National Pharmacy Association – update meeting (DR)
• Blake Lapthorn Seminar - Regulating people and systems : a case study – speaking (DR)
• Senior Staff, General Optical Council– update meeting (DR, HS, EM, BK, CBS)
• Health Regulators Chief Executives Steering Group– meeting (DR)
**Active and new consultations (week ending 11/01/13)**

**Consultations on which an office decision is pending are shown in italics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>By</th>
<th>Summary</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Consultation on the MHRA draft 2013-2018 corporate plan              | MHRA                        | MHRA is launching a five year corporate plan in April 2013 – it is seeking views on the draft plan.  
http://www.mhra.gov.uk/Publications/Consultations/Generalconsultations/CON216919 | 01/02/13 | Responding.  
Charlotte Augst Lead.                                                                             |
| Veterinary Medicines Regulations 2013  
Formal Public Consultation                                             | VMD                         | Consultation on proposed amendments to current Veterinary Medicines Regulations 2011 SI 2011/2159  
Reviewed by Martha Pawluczyk                                                                 |
| Cross border health care and patient mobility                         | Welsh Government            | Consultation on the Welsh Government’s proposals for implementation of Directive 2011/24 EU  
http://wales.gov.uk/docs/dhss/consultation/121221patienten.pdf               | 15/03/13 | Being reviewed.  
Darren Hughes (and Martha Pawluczyk)                                                                  |
| Patients’ Voice for Wales Proposals following the Review of Community Health Councils | Welsh Government            | This consultation seeks views on the Welsh Government’s proposals for improving the way the eight Community Health Councils and the Board of Community Health Councils in Wales function.  
Darren Hughes Lead                                                                                   |
| Consultation to collect views about whether a Public Health Bill is needed in Wales | Welsh Government            | This consultation provides an opportunity to consider whether legislation could help to further improve overall health and wellbeing in Wales.  
http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/healthsocialcare/publichealth/;jsessionid=02D01D24A066ACCDF33D03FA496E6C01?lang=en | 20/02/13 | Being reviewed.  
Darren Hughes                                                                                       |
| A call for evidence: EU balance of                                   | Department of Health        | The Department of Health has published a call for evidence on the EU balance of competence review health report – includes issues such as recognition of professional | 28/02/13 | Responding.  
Martha                                                                                               |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A consultation on draft amendments to the responsible officer regulations</th>
<th>Department of Health</th>
<th>This document provides the DH response to the 2012 consultation on Responsible Officers in the new health architecture and also consults on the draft regulations that will amend the Medical Profession (Responsible Officer) Regulations 2010. <a href="http://www.dh.gov.uk/health/2012/11.eu-balance-competence-review/">http://www.dh.gov.uk/health/2012/11.eu-balance-competence-review/</a></th>
<th>Pawluczyk Lead</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Red Tape Challenge</td>
<td>Cabinet Office</td>
<td>Part of the Government’s Red Tape Challenge launched last year which aims to scrutinise regulations across all key departments with a view to reducing excessive burdens. This phase includes regulations relating to professional standards – including those relating to the GPhC and the other health professional regulators. <a href="http://www.redtapechallenge.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/">http://www.redtapechallenge.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/</a></td>
<td>11/12/12 Not responding. Sent 10/12/12 Charlotte Augst Lead</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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