Public business

Other fees for 2010 and 2011 under Article 65(1)

Purpose
To consider fees levied under Article 65 (1) not covered by the Fees Rules for 2011.

Recommendations

The Council designate is asked to agree:

i. to adopt the 2010 fees that RPSGB consulted on as part of the 2010 fees rules consultation for the remainder of 2010 and to recommend fees for 2011.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 The GPhC will consider applications from non-GB qualified pharmacists and will determine their route to the Register. There are fees associated with this determination.

1.2 The GPhC will also manage the pharmacist pre-registration year and national Registration Examination. There is a fee for applying to enter pre-registration and a fee for the Examination; also there is a late fee for the Examination.

1.3 The fees referred to at 1.1 and 1.2 are not included in the GPhC’s Fees Rules. In the past these fees have been included in the RPSGB’s byelaws, and were gazetted in The Pharmaceutical Journal for 60 days.

2.0 Key considerations

2.1 The fees levied in 2010 are proposed to be adopted to facilitate a smooth transition of operations and enable continuity of fee collection.
2.2 As no additional services are to be provided to non-GB qualified pharmacists or to pre-registration trainee pharmacists in 2011 there is no need to increase the fees by anything other than inflation. However, in future years it may be necessary to increase fees above inflation to pay for additional services, such as fitness to practise hearings.

2.3 2010 fees are:

1. Overseas qualified pharmacists – examination of documents and conducting a pre overseas pharmacist assessment programme (OSPAP) assessment (where relevant): £670

2. Entry to the Pre-registration scheme: £170

3. Registration Examination entry fee: £200

4. Registration Examination late entry fee: £400

2.4 Using a projected inflation rate of 2.5%, 2011 education fees would be:

1. Overseas qualified pharmacists – examination of documents and conducting a pre overseas pharmacist assessment programme (OSPAP) assessment (where relevant): £687

2. Entry to Pre-registration scheme: £175

3. Registration Examination entry fee: £205

4. Registration Examination late entry fee: £410

2.5 Council is also asked to consider whether the administration fees as set out in the draft Fees Rules 2011 for

- reprocessing payments which have not been honoured by the bank or card issuer; or

- returning applications to the applicant for additional information more than once

should be applied to all failed payments and returned applications and not solely to applications for registration.
3.0 **Equality and diversity implications**

3.1 If the fees were not charged the GPhC would be unable to financially sustain a robust application process for prospective registrants and the burden of costs would fall on existing registrants.

3.2 The fees have been historically set on a cost recovery basis to cover the administrative costs associated with verifying documentation submitted by prospective registrants, including the costs of verification processes by external companies, at various stages of the qualifying process.

4.0 **Communications implications**

4.1 Fees for 2011 will be included in relevant application packs.

5.0 **Resource implications**

5.1 Pre-registration trainee pharmacists are required to buy several books for the training year but one, *Medicines, ethics and practice* has been supplied free by the Society. It is not clear at the moment whether this will be supplied free for the 2010 pre-registration intake but it is likely.

6.0 **Risk implications**

6.1 If the recommendations in this paper are not accepted the income stream may be compromised.

**Recommendations**

The Council designate is asked to agree:

i. to adopt the 2010 fees rules that RPSGB consulted on as part of the 2010 fees rules consultation for the remainder of 2010 and to recommend fees for 2011.

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