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 appointment process

2.1 The application period closed at noon on 5 October. 165 applications from lay candidates and 86 applications from registrant candidates were received, a total of 251. The selection panel are meeting on 5 November to determine who to invite to preliminary interviews which are being held from 8-16 November. Final interviews are being held from 3-6 December.

3.0 Council workshop

3.1 On 18 October a workshop was held for Council members. They reviewed their performance as a governing body over the past year (see paper 11.12/C/04), and discussed the development of the GPhC’s new inspection model and the
organisation’s approach to research.

4.0 Chair’s visit to Wales

4.1 On 18 September Bob Nicholls and the GPhC’s Director for Wales, Darren Hughes, met with the Chair and policy advisor of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society Welsh Pharmacy Board. They discussed a number of topics including consultation responses, self-selection, GPhC council member recruitment in Wales, local practice forum activity, prescribing course accreditation, professionalism, control of entry regulations, dispensing doctors and the role and accountability of pharmacy technicians.

4.2 Bob and Darren then went on to meet Mark Drakeford AM, the chair of the National Assembly Health Committee. They discussed the committee’s recent inquiry into community pharmacy and its recommendations, together with the GPhC’s new standards and development of our new inspection framework.

4.3 Finally, they joined Community Pharmacy Wales’ South East Board meeting, where Bob presented and took questions on the GPhC’s work.

5.0 Pharmacy technician qualifications

5.1 The current Pharmacy Technician Qualification and Credit Framework (QCF) qualifications are due for review by the end of 2013. As the standards for initial education and training for pharmacy technicians have not changed since the qualifications were originally developed, and as we have not asked Skills for Health to review the national occupational standards related to pharmacy technicians, Skills for Health is proposing to the Awarding Organisations that this review date be put back to 31st Dec 2016. The GPhC has notified Skills for Health that for our part we are content with this proposal.

5.2 Before the qualifications review date can be extended the Awarding Organisations are required by Ofqual to review the qualification units for QCF compliance (this is a technical review to meet the QCF Regulatory requirements and not a review of the actual content). Once the Awarding Organisations have undertaken the QCF compliance review they will amend any non-compliant units and send them to Skills for Health and us for information.

5.3 Once the revision is agreed, our registration documents for pharmacy technicians will be amended to include the revised expiry dates for qualifications.
6.0 **Communications and Policy**

6.1 The GPhC had a stand in the exhibition of the RPS conference. The chair and chief executive both attended for part of the conference, and staff from the communications team and the standards advisory team staffed the GPhC stand and reported from some conference sessions. We had a good position in the exhibition hall and took queries particularly on CPD and on registration and renewal. The RPS conference had around 400 delegates.

6.2 We had a stand at the Pharmacy Show, NEC Birmingham, which attracts around 7000 delegates (with around 9000 planned for 2013 as the exhibition will be expanded). 1200 delegates visited our stand on the day.

6.3 We used the Pharmacy Show to ‘launch’ the standards for registered pharmacies. 400 copies of the new standards for registered pharmacies were distributed at this event.

6.4 Members of the communications team, standards advisory team, education team, and our Director for Wales, all worked on our stand. Duncan gave a keynote speech, and our chair took part in a panel discussion on key issues facing the profession.

6.5 On 26th September we held a half-day meeting for key stakeholders to update them on, and inform them about, the next steps for registered pharmacies. The event was chaired by Bob while Duncan, Hugh, and Neil Foss all presented and took questions from the floor. Cathryn Brown and Judy Worthington attended, along with a number of staff.

6.6 The presentations and discussions covered 3 key sections: 1) Council decisions, 2) Inspection model and decision framework, 3) Transition.

6.7 We asked for offers of help and for partnership working during the transition period, and received a positive response and practical offers. We plan to hold a similar meeting in a couple of months.

7.0 **CHRE efficiency and effectiveness review**

7.1 We have received a draft of this report, to which we have responded. CHRE will collate all the responses from the regulators and forward to the Department of Health before publishing. As yet we have been given no precise date for publication. The report will be reported to the Council in due course, with our comments on it.
8.0 IT transition project update

8.1 The project to transfer IT services from RPS to Advanced 365 is approaching its conclusion. All servers have now been transferred to the new data centre and are working effectively. No applications remain at Lambeth Road and the process of decommissioning the old servers will be completed by the end of October.

8.2 Some problems surrounding the implementation of the new firewall have delayed the planned final separation of the local area network (LAN). The separation process has been delayed (by two weeks) until 31 October.

9.0 Consultations

9.1 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

24 October 2012
Appendix 1

List of Meetings

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

Chair:
- Chair, Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) Welsh Pharmacy Board – update meeting
- Chair, Welsh Assembly Group Health & Social Care Committee – introductory meeting
- Chief Executive, Community Pharmacy Wales – update meeting
- Chief Executive & Pharmacy Director, National Pharmacy Association (NPA), Chair of Buttercups Training – meeting to discuss pharmacy technicians (with DR)
- Department of Health (DH) Pharmacy Supervision Sub Group (with DR)
- Medical Education England Seminar
- Visit with Inspector – Leeds area
- GPhC Standards for Registered Pharmacies Event (with DR)
- Prix Galien Award
- RPS Conference
- The Pharmacy Show – panel session
- Head of Operations, Medical Education England (MEE), Director of Education, Nursing & Midwifery Council (NMC) and Assistant Director, Postgraduate Education, General Medical Council (GMC) & Head of Education & Registration Policy, GPhC – meeting to discuss working with HEE
- Association of Independent Multiple Pharmacies Ltd – Annual Dinner & Awards Ceremony
- Royal Society of Public Health/RPS Conference – The Future for Pharmacy and Public Health

Staff:
- Avicenna UK Conference - speaking (DR)
- Chief Executive & Pharmacy Director, National Pharmacy Association (NPA), Chair of Buttercups Training – meeting to discuss pharmacy technicians (DR with RMN)
- Department of Health (DH) Pharmacy Supervision Sub Group (DR with RMN)
• East Sussex LPC Annual General Meeting – Standards (HS)
• Chief Executive, RPS & Chief Pharmaceutical Officer for England – update meeting (DR)
• GPhC Standards for Registered Pharmacies Event (DR with RMN, HS)
• Pharmacy Show (DR, HS)
• Chief Executive, Pharmacy Council for New Zealand (DR, EM)
• Director of Education, General Medical Council (HS)
• Law Commission update meeting (DR)
• Scottish Government/Scottish Counter Fraud meeting (DR)
• Chief Executive, Director for England, RPS – Update Meeting (DR, HS & EM)
• Director of Professional Development & Support, RPS – Update meeting (HS)
• Health Regulators Directors of Resources Meeting (BK)
• Regulators Chief Executive’s Steering Group (DR)
• Deputy Head and Lead Negotiator, NHS Employers Primary Care Workforce and Contracting – update meeting (DR, EM, HS)
• Scottish Regulation Conference (DR)
• Department of Health Quality Information Committee (HS)
• The MacMillan Values – Based Standard Collaborative Committee (HS)
• British Pharmaceutical Students’ Association – Liaison meeting (DR)
• Assistant Surveillance Commissioner, Office of Surveillance Commissioners (DR)
• UK Public Health Register Board meeting (DR)
• Healthcare Improvement Scotland - System & Professional Regulators in Scotland meeting (HS)
## Appendix 2

### Consultations (week ending 19/10/2012)

Consultations on which a final office decision is pending are in italics.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>By</th>
<th>Summary</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Response</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Public consultation (MLX 379): Transposition of Directive 2011/62/EU (“the Falsified Medicines Directive”) into UK legislation</strong></td>
<td>MHRA</td>
<td>The purpose of this consultation is to present the draft transposition regulations, to test that they are workable, and to seek evidence of the impact of the regulations and proposed policy changes. <a href="http://www.mhra.gov.uk/Publications/Consultations/Medicinesconsultations/MLXs/CON195906">http://www.mhra.gov.uk/Publications/Consultations/Medicinesconsultations/MLXs/CON195906</a></td>
<td>19/11/12</td>
<td>Responding. Martha Pawluczyk Lead</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Consultation on Recommendations for No-Fault Compensation in Scotland for Injuries Resulting from Clinical Treatment</strong></td>
<td>Scottish Government</td>
<td>The Scottish Government are seeking views on the recommendations of the No-fault Compensation Review Group established in 2009 to consider the potential benefits for patients in Scotland of a no-fault compensation scheme. <a href="http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2012/08/4456">http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2012/08/4456</a></td>
<td>23/11/12</td>
<td>Recommendation not to respond. Reviewed by Lynsey Cleland</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Consultation on standards for prescribing</strong></td>
<td>Health and Care Professions Council</td>
<td>The HCPC is consulting on standards which will apply to both supplementary and independent prescribing. There are standards relating to education programmes delivering training in prescribing and standards which individual prescribers will need to meet. <a href="http://www.hcpc-uk.org/aboutus/consultations/index.asp?id=151">http://www.hcpc-uk.org/aboutus/consultations/index.asp?id=151</a></td>
<td>04/01/13</td>
<td>Reviewing. Hugh Simpson Lead</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Consultation on proposed changes to the governance arrangements for controlled drugs</strong></td>
<td>Department of Health</td>
<td>DH is consulting on proposed changes to the governance arrangements for controlled drugs in England and Scotland. Structural changes to the NHS introduced by the Health and Social Care Act 2012 have ramifications for the governance of controlled drugs. Consequently, ‘the Controlled Drugs (Supervision of Management and Use) Regulations 2006’ require revision - this consultation seeks views and the proposed changes to current arrangements, including the role and functions of Controlled Drugs Accountable Officers (CDAOs). <a href="http://www.dh.gov.uk/health/2012/09/controlled-drugs/">http://www.dh.gov.uk/health/2012/09/controlled-drugs/</a></td>
<td>15/11/12</td>
<td>Responding. Ambrose Paschalides Lead</td>
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<tr>
<td>Draft regulations under the National Health Service (Wales) Act 2006</td>
<td>Welsh Government</td>
<td>Seeking views on the draft regulations and regulatory impact assessment. The regulations will govern the provision of NHS pharmaceutical services in Wales. <a href="http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/healthsocialcare/pharmregs/;jsessionid=1b6vQQBDTjGzLhYrR3f1Qt72LbjVp8hbT6QDH4tDGn2RrvXTI-1042226716?lang=en">http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/healthsocialcare/pharmregs/;jsessionid=1b6vQQBDTjGzLhYrR3f1Qt72LbjVp8hbT6QDH4tDGn2RrvXTI-1042226716?lang=en</a></td>
<td>22/11/12</td>
<td>Responding. Darren Hughes Lead</td>
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<td>Protecting and promoting patients’ interests – licensing providers of NHS services</td>
<td>Department of Health</td>
<td>Consultation on new ‘Monitor’ licensing arrangements for providers of NHS services, including proposals for exemption from requirement to hold a licence. Note: exemption applies to community pharmacy. <a href="https://www.wp.dh.gov.uk/publications/files/2012/08/Licensing-consultation.pdf">https://www.wp.dh.gov.uk/publications/files/2012/08/Licensing-consultation.pdf</a></td>
<td>22/10/12</td>
<td>Responding. Hugh Simpson Lead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultation on the draft standards for conduct, performance and ethics</td>
<td>General Dental Council</td>
<td>The GDC has published draft revised standards for conduct, performance and ethics and is now consulting on those standards. <a href="http://www.gdc-uk.org/GDCcalendar/Consultations/Pages/Review-of-Standards-Consultation.aspx">http://www.gdc-uk.org/GDCcalendar/Consultations/Pages/Review-of-Standards-Consultation.aspx</a></td>
<td>31/12/12</td>
<td>Recommendation not to respond. Reviewed by Lyn Wibberley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consultation on CPD scheme</td>
<td>General Dental Council</td>
<td>The GDC is consulting on its proposals for a new CPD scheme. <a href="http://www.gdc-uk.org/Aboutus/Researchandconsultations/cpdreview/Pages/default.aspx">http://www.gdc-uk.org/Aboutus/Researchandconsultations/cpdreview/Pages/default.aspx</a></td>
<td>31/01/13</td>
<td>Recommendation not to respond. Reviewed by Lyn Wibberley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barriers Inquiry - Barriers to progress created by inter-professional difficulties</td>
<td>All Party Pharmacy Group</td>
<td>Call for evidence – inquiry into barriers to progress in pharmacy. This stage of the Group's work will focus on identifying barriers created by inter-professional difficulties, in particular between pharmacists and GPs. <a href="http://www.appg.org.uk/Barriers.htm">http://www.appg.org.uk/Barriers.htm</a></td>
<td>28/09/12</td>
<td>Hugh Simpson Lead</td>
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