



Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain Scottish Department

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News release

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SCOTTISH BRANCHES PLAY INTEGRAL ROLE IN NEW BOARD STRUCTURE

The key role of the Branch network for the new Scottish Pharmacy Board was underlined when Secretaries and Chairs of the Scottish Branches met on 13 June at the Scottish Department's Headquarters in York Place.

At the meeting, which was attended by the Chairman of the Scottish Executive, Dr Rose Marie Parr, and the Director, Lyndon Braddick, the Branch Officers discussed a range of issues, which importantly included how the new Scottish Pharmacy Board might discharge its function of 'Supporting the Society's Branches in Scotland'. Dr Parr reaffirmed the Scottish Executive's commitment to work closely with the Branch network in the lead up to the implementation of the new Board and stressed the need for the future Board to nurture and support this key element of the Society.

Dr Parr said: "The Branches are an integral part within the process as we move towards the creation of the Scottish Pharmacy Board. I cannot stress enough how important the Branch network is as a link to our Members and to what is going on in all areas of Scotland. It is imperative that the relationship between the Branches and the forthcoming Scottish Pharmacy Board is further cultivated.

"Having the support of Branches as a key function of the new Scottish Pharmacy Board is a clear indication of how seriously we take the need to ensure the future of all our Branches.

/more follows

I hope that with even better two-way communication the needs of the members in Scotland will be addressed by the new Board.”

The Branch officers also received an update on the Future Branches Project by Amanda King, Membership Manager. Ms King reported that the pilot projects, which include the Northern Scottish Branch, have highlighted several issues and the outcomes of the project are being collated and will be reported to Council shortly.

There was discussion around *Pharmacy 20:20* including the development of the Society’s strategy and also a request for input into the Scottish Department’s contribution to the manifestos being prepared by the Scottish political parties for the Scottish Elections in 2007.

The Branch Officers were also asked to consider the Society’s response to the Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians Order 2006 and the implications for pharmacy in Scotland. The Scottish Director encouraged Officers to submit responses from the Branches.

Ends

**For further information please contact Lyndon Braddick, Director for the Society’s
Scottish Department, on 0131 556 4386**

Notes to editors

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain is the professional and regulatory body for pharmacists in England, Scotland and Wales. In Scotland, the Society’s Scottish Executive implements policy, working with the Scottish Parliament and other stakeholders in Scotland.