

English Pharmacy Board 4 March 2009

PUBLIC BUSINESS

Public Health Leadership Forum

Purpose

To nominate a Board member to attend future meetings of the Public Health Leadership Forum.

Strategic objective domains

- An organisation that consistently performs as a regulator, professional representative leader and publisher

Action required

The English Pharmacy Board is to nominate a Board member to attend the Public Health Leadership Forum.

1. Background

The RPSGB has two places on the Public Health Leadership Forum and former President Hemant Patel used to attend. Currently staff from the Practice division attend but it would be useful for the Board to have a Board member as their representative.

2. Role of the Public Health Leadership Forum

The role of the Public Health Leadership Forum is to accelerate the pharmacy team's positive impact on public health by providing leadership and support through:

- Personally promoting the pharmacy team as an integral part of the full range of health improvement initiatives
- Identifying new ways in which pharmacy can be fully involved in schemes or proposals that impact on the wider determinants of health
- Promoting the community leadership role for pharmacy and engaging them in the sustainable development agenda at both local and national level
- Working in collaboration with Natural England and Regional DsPH to take forward pharmacy's contribution to sustainable development
- Advising and influencing commissioners of health and social care on how the pharmacy team can improve health and reduce health inequalities
- Identifying barriers to the pharmacy team's contribution to public health and agreeing ways to address them
- The identification of competences and training requirements for the pharmacy team, working in public health at all levels
- Working with the pharmacy regulator and other stakeholders (eg academia, employers, Skills for Health) to identify and develop core elements of an education and training framework for public health that underpins the undergraduate curriculum for pharmacy students, prequalification training for pharmacy technicians, and other support staff
- To lead the development of an evidence base for pharmacy practice impact on public health
- To consider leadership development and future learning and networking needs of pharmacists working within public health
- Advising on how to engage with the public to promote the pharmacy team's developing public health role

3. Membership and role of members of the Forum

Membership includes representatives of key stakeholder organisations and members of the group must bring views of their stakeholders and colleagues to the meeting and provide feedback to them of the discussions held at the meeting.

4. Current and previous topics

The Forum have worked with Pharmacy Healthlinks to provide some resources on Sustainable Development. The current issues they are addressing include the development of pharmacies as healthy living centres, the training of pharmacy staff as health trainers and their role in pharmacies and the development of pharmacists in primary care as public health leaders.

5. Number of meetings

The Forum meets three times per year.

6. Resource implications

The Board representative will be paid attendance and travel allowance for attending Forum meetings.

Action required

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Heidi Wright
Head of Practice