

English Pharmacy Board 16 September 2009

PUBLIC BUSINESS

National Pharmacy Boards election timetable and timeline 2010

Purpose

To consider the timetable for the National Pharmacy Boards election 2010 and to note the timeline for elections to the NPBs, the establishment of a Shadow Assembly and the transfer of regulatory responsibilities to the GPhC

Strategic objective domains

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

Action required

The English Pharmacy Board is asked to note:

- i. the timetable; and
- ii. the timeline for elections to the NPBs, the establishment of a Shadow Assembly and the transfer of regulatory responsibilities to the GPhC.

1. Background

In order for the National Pharmacy Boards to be elected with a mandate to create the Assembly of the new professional leadership body, work on the election process needs to begin in October 2009. A timetable detailing the processes that will be followed is attached at Appendix 1.

2. Issues

The transfer of regulatory responsibilities from the RPSGB to the GPhC is scheduled to take place in Spring 2010 with an expected date of the 1st April 2010. Bringing forward the elections of the NPBs as per the attached timeline (Appendix 2) will allow the NPBs time to elect their Chairs and Vice-Chairs and nominate other members who will form the Shadow Assembly prior to the charter changes being brought in at the same time as the transfer of regulatory responsibilities to the GPhC. Having a Shadow Assembly in operation two months before the PLB comes into being will allow them to meet and informally make decisions on issues and processes that will need formal decisions by the Assembly as soon as possible after day one of the PLB e.g. regulations, election scheme and Special Resolutions.

3. Voting

Following the successful Charter vote, electronic voting will be an option in this election, along with postal voting.

4. Risk implications

In the proposed timetable voting takes place over the Christmas period, when many people are on annual leave or the post takes longer than usual. However this risk has been mitigated by allowing more time for return of postal votes.

5. Resource implications

There is an increased cost associated with electronic voting however all costs have been accounted for in the budget for 2010.

Martyn Schofield
Corporate Secretariat

Michele Savage
Adviser on Professional Body Governance