

Pharmacy 2020

The aim of Pharmacy 2020 is to:

- Prepare a forward strategy to take pharmacy to the year 2020.
- Develop a vision of what pharmacy could look like in 2020

The project will look to achieve similar goals to the Pharmacy in a New Age (PIANA) project that took place about 10 years ago. The original PIANA project set out where pharmacy wanted to be in 10 – 15 years' time. Much of the strategy that PIANA set out for the profession has influenced the three Departments of Health (DoHs) current pharmacy policy. Pharmacy 2020 will consult with not only the pharmacy profession but public/patients groups as well as other key stakeholders in the development of a strategy to take pharmacy forward to 2020.

The project is cross directorate and has a steering group that will oversee the project. The steering group is comprised of Council members, senior members of the profession and senior staff and will govern the strategic direction of the project.. The Chair of the steering group is the President Mr Hemant Patel, in a personal capacity. The steering group has met twice. A project group with representatives from all the main operational directorates has been established and has met twice.

The project will have a number of phases in the first year.

Phase one – project set up

In this phase the governance structures have been established, the project manager recruited and badging of the project agreed.

Phase two – preparing the profession for consultation

There will be a number of consultations conducted under the Pharmacy 2020 banner. In order to get the most out of the consultations we will need to sell in the reasons behind the consultations and what we are trying to achieve. This will be done with the aid of a number of background papers identifying the trends in healthcare, science, workforce, etc. These will help the profession look to the future.

Phase three – first consultations

the first consultations are be around the high level aspects of the Code of Ethics and a consultation to feed into the education review. These will look at what it is to be a pharmacist and what a pharmacist will look like. These consultations will take place over three to six months and we will look to give pharmacists rapid feedback on what they have said.

Phase four – second consultations

The consultation on the main question of where the profession will take place after the first consultations. This consultation will need to be extensive and will involve the profession. It will also need to engage other professions, patient groups and the public.

Following this consultation we will feedback the early findings to check that we have interpreted them correctly and to reassure the profession that we have taken note. We will then be able to analyse the results carefully and prepare a vision document to share with the profession.

Michele Savage
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