



**Royal
Pharmaceutical
Society**
of Great Britain

Scottish Pharmacy Board

Report on the Scottish Pharmacy Board Roadshows

June 2007

Background

The Scottish Pharmacy Board of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain is committed to having more effective direct communication with members and has discussed ways of achieving this at several formal and informal meetings. When it met on 18 April 2007 the Board agreed to initiate a series of meetings around Scotland in May and June to provide pharmacists with opportunities to have their say on the future of Scottish pharmacy. The aims of the meetings were identified as discussing with members what they can expect from the Scottish Pharmacy Board, the potential implications of the White Paper: *Trust, assurance and safety: the regulation of health professionals in the 21st century* and, most importantly, to enable the members to air their views on the future for pharmacy in Scotland.

‘A Vision for Scottish Pharmacy’

Five roadshows, entitled *A Vision for Scottish Pharmacy – Have your say*, were held throughout Scotland. The roadshows were hosted by Lyndon Braddick, Director for Scotland, and included presentations from Dr Rose Marie Parr, Chairman of the Scottish Pharmacy Board – *What can the Board do for you?*, and Frank Owens, Vice-Chairman of the Scottish Pharmacy Board – *The White Paper: where are we now?* (Angela Timoney, member of the Scottish Pharmacy Board, replaced Frank Owens at the meeting in Dundee.)

Light refreshments were provided before the meetings, which were programmed for 7.30 – 9.30pm. Interaction was encouraged throughout the presentations and there was an open session at the end to allow members to ask questions and express views.

The roadshows were held in partnership with the Branches for that area. The Branch Secretaries played an important part in advertising the event and organising a suitable venue. Levels of attendance at the roadshows (see below) were encouraging, particularly as the meetings had been organised at very short notice. Pharmacists based in the community, in hospitals and in universities attended to join in the debate about the future of the pharmacy profession.

Location	Date	Attendance	Board members
Aberdeen	Monday 21 May	24	5
Inverness	Tuesday 22 May	21	3
Edinburgh	Wednesday 23 May	40	2
Glasgow	Monday 11 June	41	6
Dundee	Thursday 14 June	30	3
Total		156	19*

* Some Board members attended more than one meeting

Issues

The questions asked at the different roadshows were not dissimilar. By categorising them we can see the topics that our members highlighted. Appendix 1 breaks down the questions and answers in their categories however the table below gives a quick picture of what the members see as priority issues.

Topic	Number of questions
Revalidation	9
Continuing Professional Development	3
Lay involvement	4
Professional Body	13
Future of the SPB & RPSGB	5
Fees	3
Communication	5
Branches	3
Agenda for Change	1
Pharmacy Contract	1
Responsible pharmacist	1

For the Scottish Pharmacy Board the roadshows were a step towards a greater understanding of the expectations of the profession, not only in relation to the Board and the Society, but also in terms of its vision for Scottish pharmacy.

SWOT Analysis

Strengths

Commitment of SPB
Building relationships with Branches and members
Collating feedback to understand issues / wants from members
Raising the profile of the SPB

Weaknesses

Timing – limited time to plan and organise
Marketing of event – restricted by time
Attendance – potential of attendance to be greater

Future Joint working – piggy back onto other Branch events / meetings
Sustaining relationships with Branches and members
Building relationship with members by learning from the feedback gathered
Raising the profile of SPB further by getting involved in the issues raised and updating the members on progress

Not following through – gathering feedback but not putting a plan into action
Limited exposure
Timing of events – not targeting all pharmacy sectors
Location, timing i.e. evenings

Opportunities

Threats

Next Steps

At present the Board members have each committed to sponsoring a Branch and attending their meetings representing the Board. There is a desire to hold further roadshows and to widen the geographical area and target poorly-supported Branches. However, several factors need to be considered:

- Innovative ideas.
- Need to attract members from all sectors of pharmacy.
- No repetition – the presentation needs to be constantly updated and refreshed.

- Timing of events – not to clash with other events / meetings.
- Audience and their availability.
- Location of events.
- Resource – time factor for Board members.
- Resource – financial costs.
- Opportunity to participate in existing meetings e.g. NES, PLGs etc.