

Scottish Pharmacy Board 28 January 2009

PUBLIC BUSINESS

National Pharmacy Boards Election 2009

Purpose

To note members of the Board retiring in 2009 and agree arrangements for conducting the election of Board members in 2009 as set out in the regulations.

Strategic objective domain

- Improving member engagement in the work of the Society.
- An organisation that consistently performs as a regulator, professional representative leader and publisher

Action required

The Scottish Pharmacy Board is asked to:

- i. note the Board members whose term of office expires in 2009 and
- ii. agree that the date from which newly elected or re-elected and newly appointed or re-appointed members of the Board shall take office ('the effective date') shall be aligned with the effective date for the Council. Council has agreed that this date is 00.01 on Thursday 21 May 2009.

1. Election Scheme

The election scheme for members of the national pharmacy boards (Appendix 1) should fix the date on which Board members elected will take office – this is known as the 'effective date'. The election scheme states:

4. Effective date
 - (1) Each board shall, on the advice of its Returning Officer, fix in each year a date on which members of that board elected in that year shall take office ('the effective date').
 - (2) The effective date shall ordinarily be in June but may, upon the advice of the Returning Officer, be fixed in another month.
 - (3) The Returning Officer shall publish the effective date on the Society's website and in the Journal, as soon as practicable after it has been fixed by the board.

It has previously been agreed that Council and national Pharmacy Board elections should be run in tandem in order to ensure effective use of resources. The proposed effective date for Council is 00.01 on Thursday 21 May 2009. This is to tie in with the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on the Wednesday 20 May 2009. Therefore it is recommended that the Boards' effective date also be Thursday 21 May 2009 at 00.01.

2. Terms of office

The Returning Officer is required to notify the Board of members whose term of office expires at midnight the day before the effective date in 2009. These are:

Elected Scottish Pharmacy Board members:

Prof. Christine Bond
Prof. George Downie
Dr Derek Stewart
Mrs Sandra Melville

Co-opted Scottish Pharmacy Board member:

Mrs Alpana Mair

All five places are for unreserved pharmacist vacancies.

3. Effects of de-merger

Following the publication in 2007 of the Government White Paper *Trust, Assurance and Safety - The Regulation of Health Professionals in the 21st Century*, the Society is working towards the demerger of its regulatory and professional roles. The aim is that a new General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) and a new professional leadership body for pharmacy will open for business in 2010.

Therefore the term of office for the National Pharmacy Board members elected in 2009 will be for one year only, and they will have to stand down in May 2010. They will be welcome to stand again in 2010, although the election scheme and thus some aspects of the eligibility criteria may change to facilitate the transition to the professional leadership body. In addition, under the current proposals Board members elected in 2010 will be eligible for nomination to (or, depending on their Board office, may be required to sit on) the overarching Assembly for the new professional leadership body once it is established and potentially in shadow form before the demerger.

4. Risk Implications

Aligning the effective date with Council allows efficient use of resources and avoids confusion.

5. Resource Implications

Resources have been allocated in the 2009 budget.

Lyndon Braddick

Secretary to the Board