

## **SCOTTISH PHARMACY BOARD MEETING**

Minutes of the meeting held at 10.30 on Wednesday 6 May 2009 at 36 York Place, Edinburgh EH1 3HU

### **PUBLIC BUSINESS**

#### **Present**

Mrs S Melville (Chairman)	Mrs A Mair*
Mr A Jack (Vice-Chairman)	Mr W Templeton
Mr E Black	Dr R M Parr
Professor C Bond	Dr D Stewart
Professor G Downie	Mr C Tait
Ms A Timoney	

#### **Ex-officio**

Vice President, Mr M Astbury, and Mrs K Blair.

#### **In attendance**

Lyndon Braddick, Director for Scotland; Aileen Bryson, Principal Policy Advisor for Scotland; Elaine Preece, Office & Facilities Manager; Marie Stewart, PA to Director; Keith Geddes and Lynne Veitch, Pagoda PR, Howard Duff, Director for England and Secretary to Council's TWG.

\* Mrs Alpana Mair joined the Board meeting after lunch and was in attendance from item 20 onwards.

#### **09/14. Welcome and Apologies**

The Chairman welcomed the Vice President; Mrs Kay Blair; Howard Duff, Director for England and Secretary to Council's TWG; Keith Geddes and Lynne Veitch.

Apologies were received from the President, David Thomson, Frank Owens and Jeremy Holmes, Chief Executive & Registrar.

#### **09/15. Declarations of Interest**

Board members were reminded to declare any specific interests prior to discussion of agenda items.

#### **09/16. Confirmation of Board Meeting Minutes**

Scottish Pharmacy Board

**approved**

the minutes of the public business part of the Board Meeting held on Wednesday 28 January 2009.

**09/17. Matters Arising**

None.

**09/18. Communications Working Group – update**

Alistair Jack, Chairman of the Communications Working Group (CWG), updated the Board on the main issues considered by the group at its meeting on Tuesday 14 April.

Scottish Media Campaign 2009

This is a real opportunity for a large scale Scottish focused campaign. The Board was asked to review the options and decide on a campaign suitable for Scotland.

Board members discussed the possibilities of focusing campaigns on the seasons, eg holiday health for the summer and depression for the winter. Mens' health was also discussed as a topic with particular relevance to Scotland.

Scottish Pharmacy Board

**agreed**

that a Holiday Health campaign focusing on melanoma would be relevant for Scotland and would help raise the profile of pharmacists.

Scottish Pharmacy Board Roadshows

It was decided to postpone the SPB roadshows until after the summer when there will be more detail available on the professional leadership body.

Parliamentary Exhibition and Reception

The Board was asked to reserve the confirmed dates of Tuesday 8 until Thursday 10 December for the Scottish Pharmacy Board exhibition in the Garden Lobby reception area at Scottish Parliament. The evening reception has been confirmed for Committee Room 3 on Wednesday 9 December. Both events have been kindly sponsored by Richard Simpson MSP.

Contact with MSPs

Board members were asked to note the current engagement tracker and asked to notify the Scottish Office of any MSP / MP contact.

Virtual Network

The Virtual Network is currently under construction and is due to go live at the start of next month. Board members were asked to feedback examples of best practice that would be of interest to pharmacists for the site.

Party Political Conferences

The Chairman of CWG took the opportunity to thank those Board members who have contributed by attending the Party Political Conferences.

## 09/19. New Professional Leadership Body

The Chairman updated Board members on the Branch Secretaries' meeting held on Tuesday 5 May. The turnout for the meeting was disappointing with only three Branches being represented but their contribution was positive and helpful. The Branch Secretaries shared their working practices with each other and discussed engaging other Branch Secretaries.

Howard Duff, Secretary to the Council's Transitional Working Group (TWG), then updated Board members on the progress of the work being undertaken by the Group.

Mr Duff reminded Board members that the TWG role was to oversee the process of transition to ensure the successful delivery of the PLB. He highlighted the programme structure with the eleven workstreams and identified the six high-level workstreams:

- Professional Support
- Professional Development & Education
- Leadership & Advocacy
- Professional Networking
- Marketing & Communication
- Science & Research

from which members would see the differences. He then proceeded to take the Board members through the current work of these workstreams and identified the key priority projects.

The Board discussed the development of Local Practice Forums (LPFs), described as the 'shop window' for other services, under the Professional Networking workstream. The Board informed Mr Duff that previous research, *A cross sectional survey of Scottish pharmacists' views, experiences and attitudes towards the branches of the RPSGB and their functions*, had already been carried out by students at the Robert Gordon University and could prove useful. It is important for the structure of the LPFs to be reflective of Scotland and take into consideration its geographical and regional health structures, e.g. Health Boards.

Mr Duff also took Board members through the marketing campaign *Commitment to Pharmacy* for the new professional leadership body. He emphasised that the campaign was about developing emotional connection with members, giving them a compelling reason to remain members and raising the status of pharmacy and pharmacists. He observed that we are not yet in a position to give a list of services to members but rather to make promises that can be measured. At the centre of these promises is to lead and represent members, putting their interests at the heart of what we do and to raise the status and the profile of the pharmacy profession. It is vital to engage with real pharmacists and part of the campaign includes recruiting pharmacy pioneers.

The pioneers will be current members of the Society who are willing to be at the forefront of development of the new body and to experience and test new products and services ahead of others. Advertisements will feature pioneers in a bid to encourage other members.

The Board members were encouraged by the campaign work and discussed how they could get involved. The Board stressed the importance of the role of the National Pharmacy Boards within the new body and that it is vital that they are visible throughout the process.

Scottish Pharmacy Board

**agreed**

to invite Patrick Stubbs, Head of Membership and Marketing, to the next Board meeting.

#### **09/20. Scottish Pharmacy Board Action Plan**

The Chairman recapped on the points raised at the Strategy Discussion session on Tuesday 14 April.

Some parts of the Manifesto for Scottish Pharmacy are still valid and represent the current areas where SPB seeks to influence policy makers. Other objectives have either been achieved or there has been a change in Scottish Government policy since 2007 and some new areas of interest to the profession have become higher priorities.

##### Abolition of prescription charges

SPB is in favour of abolition of prescription charges and advocates extending the successful eMAS so that pharmacy is the first port of entry to the NHS for all minor ailments, extending the remit to include treatment of appropriate common conditions for everyone.,.

##### Role in Substance Misuse

SPB fully supports the ethos of the 'Road to Recovery' policy and move away from the emphasis on a harm-reducing strategy to a more holistic recovery process, and would like pharmacists to be more closely involved in the recovery programmes. In particular, the Board supports increased pharmacist prescribing of methadone, taking advantage of daily client contact and accessibility in the community. Direct referral systems to other health and social care professionals are needed. Resources and workforce issues will need to be addressed for any substantial improvements to be initiated and sustained across the country.

##### Integration of Pharmacy into NHS

The Board confirmed its view that pharmacists should be represented at every level of healthcare policy where medicines are involved, to encourage safe systems of working, improve communication and sharing of information.,. This strategy should include the presence of a pharmacist prescriber and pharmacy

technician at the Out of Hours centres across the country and a greater role for antimicrobial pharmacists in reducing Healthcare Associated Infections (HAIs). Pharmacists should be supported to ensure that all patients have timely access to their prescribed medicines.

#### Access to Healthcare Records

This was confirmed as a priority for many reasons including patient safety, and especially relevant in Scotland with unscheduled care and the emerging Chronic Medication Service (CMS). IT is still a barrier but this should be overcome.

#### Workforce planning

This is seen as an over-arching issue, touching on many policy areas such as patient safety, stress in the workplace, possibility of an integrated 5-year undergraduate course and career routes for pharmacy including Agenda for Change where lengthy processes have demoralised the workforce in some areas.

Scottish Pharmacy Board

**agreed**

to review and agree the draft Action Plan at the next Board meeting.

### **09/21. Scottish Pharmacy Board Representation**

Alistair Jack and Ewan Black fed back to the Board on their attendance at the Pharmacy Practice Research Trust & RPSGB Joint Symposium: *Workplace Pressure and the Pharmacy Workforce, Supporting Professionals and Protecting the Public* on Tuesday 28 and Wednesday 29 April in London. Professor Christine Bond was also in attendance at the event as a speaker. Reflecting on the research presented she said that the information was not broken down into the countries and therefore it was difficult to tell if the output, highlighting that pharmacists are stressed and the causes, was reflective of Scotland. There is a need for further research in the Scottish context.

### **09/22. Scottish Office of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain**

At the last Board meeting the Chairman concluded that the Board had taken this process as far as it could and the next stage was for a case to be submitted to the Resource Management Committee (RMC), which is an advisory group to Council on financial matters. The RMC would then put forward recommendations to Council on the acquisition of a new property in Edinburgh.

The Chairman was pleased to inform the Board that Council had agreed financial parameters for the purchase or lease of a new property in Edinburgh. It was now up to the Board to secure a suitable property using the options appraisal criteria and the financial package agreed by Council.

A tendering process has been completed and property consultants have been appointed to assist the Board in finding suitable premises. The next step will be the identification of suitable properties and for the Board to review those fitting the agreed criteria before a final decision is made.

The Chairman announced that this was a positive move for the future of Scottish pharmacists and thanked the President for his support and Board members for their contribution to the process.

**09/23. Any Other Competent Business**

Angela Timoney informed the Board that a 'Celtic Pharmacy Festival' is to be held on 7 & 8 November at Herriot Watt Conference Centre in Edinburgh. It is a collaborative event between the Scottish Government Health Department and ABPI with the involvement of other stakeholders.

**09/24. Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting is Wednesday 10 June 2009.