

Mr. Brendan Kerr  
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Dear consultee,

### **Draft CPD framework and standards**

I am writing to invite you to respond to a consultation we have launched on the new CPD framework for pharmacists.

CPD is intrinsically linked to a registrant's registration status, which is given authority in the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland (Continuing Professional Development) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012. The regulations unequivocally state that:

*'CPD means the continuing professional development which registered persons are required to undertake in order to have their name retained on the register and to maintain competence.'*

The current CPD process has been in operation for six years. CPD is currently a professional and ethical requirement for registration and will become a statutory requirement of registration with the Pharmaceutical Society NI with the enactment of the new CPD regulations in June 2013.

The Pharmaceutical Society NI is committed to publishing CPD standards and a CPD framework. We have developed the latter over a number of months and now we are seeking your views about the standards and framework through this consultation process.

As part of this process, I am directing you to consider the new standards and CPD framework which set out:

- the requirements for doing CPD
- what constitutes non-compliance with these requirements
- the consequences of non-compliance or making a false declaration about your CPD compliance, and finally
- the procedure for restoration to the register after CPD non-compliance.

The consultation questions at the end of each section of the framework will direct you to some of the main issues. These include:

- the **compulsory** submission from **all** registrants of their CPD portfolio each year
- the application process for extenuating circumstances (which includes maternity exemption)
- the remedial measures that will apply to those non-compliant with the CPD requirements
- the appeals process, and
- the procedure for restoration to the register after CPD non-compliance.

We would welcome your views on the above and other aspects of the new CPD framework.

It is hoped that registrants will utilise the consultation process to offer ideas and recommendations which will help inform thinking as we move forward with the new statutory CPD framework.

### **Consultation process**

The full document and supplementary questionnaire can be accessed online on the Pharmaceutical Society NI website: [www.psni.org.uk/publications](http://www.psni.org.uk/publications) .

Responses should preferably be returned electronically to Michelle McCorry, [michelle.mccorry@psni.org.uk](mailto:michelle.mccorry@psni.org.uk) by **7 February 2013**

I look forward to your views on the Draft CPD framework and standards.

Yours sincerely,



**Brendan Kerr**  
**Registrar**