

Trevor Patterson
Chief Executive
Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland
73 University Street
Belfast
BT7 1HL

22 September 2014

Consultation on fees 2015-2017

Dear registrant,

Today the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society NI is launching a consultation on the future fees payable by registrants for the years commencing 1st June 2015, 2016 and 2017 respectively. This consultation will run for 12 weeks and will close on 22nd December 2014.

The current fee has now been in place since 2009 and since then through prudent use of resources and efficiency savings within the organisation, the Council has been able to maintain the Registration and Retention fee at £372.

For the first time in recent years, the organisation has reported an operational deficit in the 2013/2014 registration year and going forward, without action, this deficit is likely to increase. The main drivers of this deficit have been; the increase in Fitness to Practise costs and the costs associated with Governance following legislative improvements.

As registrants will be aware in October 2012 under the amended Pharmacy Order the organisation was restructured, with an appointed Council and its powers in relation to Fitness to Practise were improved. Over the last three years the cost associated with Fitness to Practise has gone up by approximately 150%.

The proposals contained within the consultation document set out a financial plan that will see a modest increase in fees allied to the prudent reduction in reserves seeking to bring the organisation back, within three years, to a break even position.

Ultimately the proposed increases in the first year, after tax relief, are equivalent to an extra £1.50 per month and in the subsequent years 75 pence per month.

We would invite you to consider the details of the proposals that are available on our website at: <http://www.psni.org.uk/publications/consultations/>

All responses should be sent by post, fax or email to:

Consultation on Fees 2015-2017
Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland
73 University Street
Belfast, BT7 1HL

Tel: 028 9026 7935
Fax: 028 9043 9919

Email: Mark Neale, consultation coordinator mark.neale@psni.org.uk

Once the consultation has closed, all responses will be considered and a report forwarded to the Council for consideration. Once complete the Council will ask the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety NI to make the relevant regulations.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Trevor Patterson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Trevor Patterson

Chief Executive