

Dear Registrant,

In the letter to registrants of 17 September 2015¹ the President of the Pharmaceutical Society NI indicated that a fees consultation would be launched for the registration year 2016/17.

Today the Pharmaceutical Society NI is launching that consultation which will run for 8 weeks and will close on 25 January 2016.

No changes to the fee structures have been made since 2009 and whilst it was our intention to increase the fee in June 2015 this increase was not implemented due to the issues covered in our previous letter.

This consultation is making proposals designed to place the organisation on a stable financial basis, delivered through amended Regulations. The proposals contained within this consultation are viewed by the organisation as an interim fix pending a more detailed review of our fees and associated legislation.

Over the past two years the organisation has reported a deficit and going forward, without action, this deficit will place an unacceptable burden on reserves. The main drivers of this deficit have been; the increase in Fitness to Practise costs and the costs associated with Governance which has been only partly mitigated by efficiency measures.

From our annual report, registrants will be aware that over the past two years our income has not matched our expenditure and in this current financial year the organisation is forecasting a further deficit, albeit reduced by efficiencies.

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 and further cost reduction initiatives seeking to bring the organisation back, over the next few years, to a break even position whereby budgeted income and expenditure are matched.

We would invite you to consider and respond to the details of the proposals that are available on our website at:

<http://www.psn.org.uk/publications/consultations/>

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

Consultation on Fees 2016/17
Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland
73 University Street
Belfast, BT7 1HL

¹ <http://www.psn.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/registrant-letter-17-sept.pdf>

Tel: 028 9026 7935
Fax: 028 9043 9919

Email: Mark Neale, consultation coordinator fees2015@psni.org.uk

Should you require a hard copy of any of the documents referred to in this letter please detail the documents required and send your request to;

Request for documents
Consultation on Fees 2016/17
Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland
73 University Street
Belfast, BT7 1HL

Once this consultation has been completed, the responses considered and a proposal is made and passed by the Council, it will make the necessary Regulations for approval by the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (DHSSPS). The Regulations would then be subject to the negative resolution procedure in the Northern Ireland Assembly.

Yours sincerely

Trevor Patterson
Chief Executive