

# Regulatory Update

## Message from Dr Jim Livingstone, President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland

I was thrilled to be appointed President of the Pharmaceutical Society of NI for four years from October 2014. It is a great honour and privilege, and not least a unique challenge to be the first non-pharmacist to be appointed as President in the organisation's ninety year history. I intend to do my very best to meet that challenge and uphold that honour.

The Society's Council has been led by many great Presidents. I am delighted to have known and worked with several of them in my previous roles as Director of Primary Care and Director of Safety Quality & Standards at DHSSPS. I learned a great deal from them about pharmacy - its vital role in healthcare, its great achievements and innovations, and its challenges. I will try hard to emulate their leadership and successes.

Effective regulation in healthcare is undoubtedly a key component in the continuous effort to ensure patient safety and public confidence in high quality health services. Pharmacy professionals amply demonstrate year after year that they believe in, and deliver, excellent quality. The terrific success of the new statutory CPD process introduced this year is testimony to that fact.

In the coming year the Council will review the current Code of Ethics and review our Raising Concerns Guidance. I am determined to ensure that these will meet the needs of the public and maintain the excellent reputation of the profession. In addition, a key challenge ahead will be the further implementation of our Corporate Strategy "A New Era". The Council remains committed to delivering on our vision that:

'The Pharmaceutical Society of NI will continue to be recognised as a proactive, exemplary regulator which is trusted by patients, respected by registrants and has the confidence of the public and legislators.'

At a personal level, my priority will be to lead the Council effectively in delivering that vision. I also hope in the year ahead to meet as many pharmacists as possible to listen and learn from them.

In the meantime, I wish all pharmacy registrants, their colleagues and families, a very Peaceful and Happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Livingstone".

Dr Jim Livingstone, **President**