

Welcome to Update



Welcome to the fourth edition of our regulatory update in 2021.

In this edition we bring you a holiday message from Dr Jim Livingstone, the President of the Pharmaceutical Society NI.

We highlight the upcoming Council Meeting in January 2022.

We bring you the President of the Pharmaceutical Society NI's comments on the successful common registration assessment results.

Lastly, we highlight some news you may have missed and an extension to the application period for the vacancy for an interim senior project manager.

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Review previous editions

You can read previous editions of our Regulatory Update [here](#)

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Holiday Message from the President of the Pharmaceutical Society NI

The President of the Pharmaceutical Society NI, Dr Jim Livingstone, released his annual holiday message to pharmacists in Northern Ireland.

“As the pandemic continues to increase pressure on our health service, pharmacists across a diverse range of settings, have stepped up to the challenge by continuing to provide safe and effective healthcare and support to our community. To ensure continuing access to healthcare, pharmacists have developed new and innovative services for the public and have provided direct access to vaccination services in the fight against new COVID-19 variants.

“As the pharmacy regulator, we continue to support pharmacists in this challenging environment by introducing the improvements to standards, guidance and pharmacy training agreed by Council, including the changes to the training of pharmacists through a new foundation year, a new joint assessment with the GPhC and improvements to the CPD system.

“On behalf of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society NI, I want to pay tribute to your extraordinary expertise, dedication, care and professionalism in contributing to the provision of safe and effective healthcare and support to our community.

“I wish you and your families a very Happy Christmas, and a peaceful, safe and successful New Year.”

Reminder of an upcoming Council Meeting

The next Public Council meeting will take place on **25 January 2022 via Zoom commencing at 09:30 am.**

All our Council meetings are open to the public except in exceptional circumstances and are normally held in our offices at 73 University Street, Belfast BT7 1HL. However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic and until further notice, Council meetings are being held remotely via Zoom.

Should you wish to attend, including via Zoom, please contact the Council Secretary, June Alexander (june.alexander@psni.org.uk), at least one working day in advance of the meeting advising of your attendance and stating any particular access requirements you may have.

A list of upcoming Council meetings can be found [here](#).

Approved Council Minutes can be found [here](#).

President welcomes successful Common Registration Assessment results

The results of the first four-country common registration assessment for pharmacists, held jointly by the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland and General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC), were published on the 17 December 2021.

A total of 959 candidates sat the registration assessment in four countries on 16 November, with 584 candidates passing the assessment: an overall pass rate of 61%. Of the 18 candidates sat the examination in Northern Ireland 83.3% (15) passed. The highest pass rate of the four nations.

Following the release, Dr Jim Livingstone President of the Pharmaceutical Society NI said: “I would congratulate all the successful candidates on achieving their results in the Common Registration Assessment. With this being the first UK wide assessment, and the first online assessment for Northern Ireland, it is particularly pleasing that it went so well.

“With an overall pass rate for Northern Ireland candidates being 83%., full credit must go to the trainees, their tutors, and their colleagues who have encouraged them on their way.

Congratulations are also due to the staff at the Pharmaceutical Society NI, and their GPhC partners, for delivering the common registration assessment and results in such a timely and efficient fashion, especially during the difficult circumstances of the pandemic.

“I look forward to welcoming the successful candidates onto the professional Register in the next few weeks.

“To those who have not been successful, I’d encourage them to seek help and support from the team at the Pharmaceutical Society NI and further information can be found on our website”.

The statistical breakdown of the results, including the pass rate details for Northern Ireland can be found [here](#).

News you may have missed

Joint Statement from the Chief Executives of the Statutory Regulators of Health and Social Care Professionals 13 December 2021

The regulators of UK health and social care professionals have reiterated their support for staff working together to tackle the ongoing pandemic and seasonal pressure on services and they have republished their joint statement first published in March 2020. It was reissued in January 2021 and December 2021 to set out their joint approach again as the pandemic continues.

The full statement can be found [here](#).

Extension to Application Period - Vacancy for an Interim Senior Project Manager

The Pharmaceutical Society of NI is seeking to recruit an experienced Project Manager to join their team for a fixed period of 12 months. The successful applicant will support the CEO and Senior Management Team in the delivery of time-limited projects and will support the registration function.

We are seeking to recruit a candidate with strong interpersonal and influencing skills, an expert in their field, who can communicate and build relationships with all stakeholders whilst managing multiple tasks and projects.

Main projects will include:

- taking forward preliminary work on legislative reform and introduction of entry regimes to a register of pharmacy technicians (subject to Ministerial approval);
- taking forward a review of post-registration education and training, providing recommendations to Council;
- supporting legislative reform being taken forward by DHSC with a view to delivering local implementation; and
- supporting the introduction of new Premises Standards in Northern Ireland.

To apply, please email your CV to jobs@fordemayconsulting.com, or use the link below, setting out how you meet the requirements and include current salary. Please quote reference number **1822/SPM**.

[Interim Senior Project Manager - Forde May Consulting](#)

Alternatively, call Gerry May on 02890628877 for a confidential discussion and more information.

The closing date for applications is **Friday, 7 January 2022**.

Newsletter Feedback

As always, we welcome your feedback on this Newsletter to make it as effective as possible. If you have any feedback or suggestions, please contact :

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