

Welcome to Update



Welcome to the second edition of our Regulatory Update in 2022.

In this edition, we highlight the Corporate Strategy Addendum passed by Council which is applicable for the period, 01 June 2022 to 31 May 2023.

We bring you news of the registration timeline for successful candidates from the June 2022 Common Registration Assessment.

We remind you of the closure of the of the Covid-19 Temporary Register, and again, encourage pharmacists on this Register, to apply for full registration.

We highlight the next Council meeting on the 15 September 2022 and how to attend.

Lastly, we report some news you may have missed.

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

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Corporate Strategy Addendum 1 June 2022 to 31 May 2023

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society NI [Corporate Strategy 2017-2022](#) came into operation on 01 June 2017 and was due to conclude on 31 May 2022. That Corporate Strategy set out Council's Vision of being recognised and trusted as a leader for modern and effective healthcare regulation with a key role in ensuring pharmacy services are safe and meet high standards. The Strategy also set out Council's Mission along with six key high level strategic objectives and related goals.

Objectives

1. To deliver high quality pharmacy regulation that is proportionate and cost effective;
2. To set pharmacy standards that are evidence-based, output-focused, achievable and necessary for patient and public safety;
3. To conduct Fitness to Practise processes that are robust, timely and fair;
4. To ensure that pharmacy education and professional development is fit for purpose;
5. To be an accountable organisation with effective governance and operations; and
6. To communicate effectively, be accessible and responsive.

A number of issues have impacted progress on the Strategy. The most significant are around delays by the Government in bringing forward legislative reform (consulted upon in 2016), Brexit and the emergence of the pandemic in March 2020 which diverted resources from lower-priority strategic goals.

Following the November 2021 Council Meeting, a Task & Finish Group was established to review the current Corporate Strategy with the object of producing the 12-month Addendum designed to extend the life of the current Strategy and taking account of critical demands to be met and goals to be set for this additional 12-month period (1 June 2022 to 31 May 2023). The Group had input from the Senior Management Team, the Chair of the Post-Registration Education and Training Task and Finish Group and the Chair of the Council Learning and Development Task and Finish Group, providing guidance on anticipated changes to Goals following on from their respective reviews.

The [Corporate Strategy Addendum](#) takes cognisance of the continued ongoing effects of the pandemic together with staffing and resourcing issues arising from this and other circumstances. Additionally, in some areas, progress within the 2022-2023 extension period will continue to be dependent on Government progress in bringing forward relevant legislation.

The [Update report to Council in February 2022](#) show any revisions and or modifications to Objectives or Goals (marked in red) with accompanying RAG status/forecast ratings. For the most part, the original Objectives and Goals have three remained relevant and fit for purpose with, in most cases, no adjustment or only minor adjustments necessary to reflect Goal completion or ongoing implementation.

June 2022 Common Registration Assessment and Registration

The 2022 summer Common Registration Assessment (CRA), jointly operated by the Pharmaceutical Society NI and the GPhC, was held on 29 June 2022 across the UK. The results will be released on 29 July 2022.

Trainees registered with the Pharmaceutical Society NI will receive their results via their registered email address. Further information about the CRA is available on our [website](#).

The process and timelines for Foundation Training Year (FTY) trainees to register as a pharmacist in Northern Ireland upon the successful completion of the CRA is available on our website's Results and Registration section [here](#). We encourage trainees to carefully read the information provided and follow the steps outlined to ensure timely registration with the Pharmaceutical Society NI.

Reminder of the Closure of the COVID-19 Temporary Register

Pharmacists are reminded that the Covid-19 Temporary Register will close on 30 September 2022.

Pharmacists who remain on the Covid-19 Temporary Register and do not apply to join the Register, will not be able to practise in Northern Ireland as of 30 September 2022.

The Pharmaceutical Society NI encourages pharmacists on the Covid-19 Temporary Register to apply for full registration to enable them to continue to practise pharmacy in Northern Ireland after the 30 September 2022.

The registration page can be accessed [here](#).

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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Upcoming Council meeting

The next Public Council meeting will take place on 15 September 2022. This meeting will adopt a blended approach with some attendees meeting face-to-face at 73 University Street and others attending via Zoom.

This meeting will commence promptly 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.

Should you wish to attend, 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.

The final Council meeting of 2022 will be held on 23 November 2022. The 2023 list of Council Meetings will be published on our website in late September 2022.

The latest approved Council minutes from the Council meeting of 17 May 2022 can be found [here](#).

A list of all Council minutes can be found [here](#).

News you may have missed

29/6/22 Regulation of Pharmacy Technicians in Northern Ireland moves forward.

Health Minister Robin Swann announced that he has approved work to begin to bring Pharmacy Technicians, in Northern Ireland under statutory regulation by the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland. Full article from the DOHNI website can be accessed [here](#).

June 2022 The Introduction of Statutory Regulation of Pharmacy Technician Workforce in Northern Ireland Consultation Summary Report.

The full report from the DOHNI website can be accessed [here](#).