

**From the Co-Chairs of the Pharmacy
Technician Regulation and Development
(PTRD) Oversight Board**



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By Email to

Dear Colleagues,

The Pharmacy Technician Regulation and Development (PTRD) Oversight Board was convened in 2023 to deliver on the Ministerial commitment to introduce the necessary changes to policy and legislation to enable the statutory regulation and development of pharmacy technicians in Northern Ireland by April 2027.

The Pharmaceutical Society NI (the Society) has written to the Department to raise concerns regarding the organisation's financial sustainability. The Society has advised the Department that, with regret, its input to the PTRD project work has had to be paused at this time.

At the Society's Annual General Meeting on 16th October 2025 attendees were advised that the Health Minister had advised the Department to formally engage with the Society to explore options for the future sustainability of pharmacy regulation in Northern Ireland. This work will be led by the Department in partnership with the Society and will result in a Departmental consultation on future models of regulation for the pharmacy profession in Northern Ireland including pharmacists and pharmacy technicians.

We understand this is a disappointing position for all those working to progress the PTRD project, for the Pharmacy Technician workforce and the wider pharmacy profession. However, please be assured that we remain committed to exploring what can be achieved within the agreed timeline of April 2027 and will be communicating with further information in due course.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cathy Harrison'.

Professor Cathy Harrison
Chief Pharmaceutical Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Canice Ward'.

Canice Ward
Chief Executive Officer PSNI