

## Regulatory and Professional Policy Committee Terms of Reference

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The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland (PSI) has established a Regulatory and Professional Policy Committee as an Advisory Committee of the Council. This Committee is established under the Pharmacy Act 2007 and under the PSI (Council) Rules of 2008 and 2015.

The overall purpose of the Committee is to advise the Council in relation to its regulatory and professional policy functions. [“Regulatory” here refers to the Council’s functions across the domains of education, qualification recognition, registration (both pharmacists and pharmacies), pharmacy compliance and quality assessment, fitness-to-practise and continuing professional development.]

### **1. Membership and Appointment**

The members of the Committee are appointed by the Council, following nomination by the Special Purposes Committee.

In appointing members, the Council will have reference to the following competency areas and the responsibilities of the Committee so that the Committee collectively possesses an appropriate range of skills and knowledge to perform its functions to the required standard.

- Experience in professional/healthcare/service regulation
- Experience in professional practice development within the health sector
- Experience in professional education, accreditation and learning
- Experience in developing and using outcome-based standards to assess quality in healthcare services,
- Experience in patient/service user advocacy.

Should it be the case that essential skills are not available within the Council membership, it is open to Council to nominate external members to the Committee.

The Committee is composed of a maximum of eight members, ordinarily being members of Council, and which includes:

- A Chairperson
- A minimum of two members who are registered pharmacists
- A minimum of two members who are not registered pharmacists

The Chairperson will be nominated by the President, after consultation with the Special Purposes Committee, and approved by Council. Committee Members will hold membership for up to two years and will be eligible for reappointment. No member will ordinarily serve more than two consecutive terms.

## **2. Reporting and Review**

The Committee will formally report in writing to the Council through a report from the Committee, to be presented by the Chair of the Committee to each meeting of the Council.

The Committee will also periodically review its own effectiveness (including these Terms of Reference) and report on the results of that review to the Council.

## **3. Advisory Responsibilities**

The Committee will advise the Council in relation to its policy objectives as set out in the Corporate Strategy and related developments pertaining to the PSI's regulatory functions. This may include:

- the effectiveness of the PSI's regulatory regime across all its domains of regulation,
- developments in the regulatory regime,
- legislative reform to ensure future effectiveness across PSI's functions,
- developments in pharmacy practice to enhance patient care, quality health outcomes and safety,
- opportunities where PSI can contribute to strategic developments within healthcare in Ireland,

## **4. Other Responsibilities**

In addition to its advisory responsibilities, the Committee is also responsible for:

- Developing a workplan for each year for presentation to Council.
- In line with the policy and strategic objectives proposed by the Council and through its Corporate Strategy, make recommendations for specific workgroups to act on Council's decisions, their terms of reference, including membership from within and outside Council, timeframes and actions to be achieved.
- overseeing any working group(s) established under the auspices of the Committee and reporting on its work to the Council.

## 5. Meetings and Support

Meetings of the Committee shall function as follows:

- The Committee will meet at least four times a year.
- The quorum for a meeting of the Committee shall be 50 % of the number of members of the Committee plus one or, where the number of members is uneven, 50% of the number of members of the Committee rounded up to the nearest whole number.
- The Committee Chair will ordinarily chair the Committee meeting.
- The Registrar will normally attend meetings of the Committee and will arrange for the Committee to be supported by PSI staff.

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