

Minutes for Public Council Meeting No. 42
Thursday 25 October 10.00am
10-12 Hogan Place, Dublin 2

The Public session of the 42nd meeting of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland established under the Pharmacy Act, 2007 was held at 10.00am on Thursday 25 October 2012 at 10-12 Hogan Place, Dublin 2.

Present: Mr. P. Fahey (President), Mr. J. Collins, Ms. M. Doherty, Mr. E. Hanly, Ms. L. Clarke, Mr. N. Stenson, Mr. J. Corr, Mr. A. Horan, Ms. I. Kelleher, Ms. D. Larkin, Dr. J. Holohan, Prof. C. O Boyle, Mr. F. O Cuinneagain, Mr. F. Murphy, Mr. Jim Brophy.

PSI staff: Ms. C. McGoldrick (Acting Registrar), Mr. J Bryan, Ms. D Gaughan, Dr. L. Horgan, Ms K. O’Flaherty, Ms. S. O Keffe, Ms. D O Halloran.

By teleconference: Prof. C. O Driscoll

1. Apologies

Dr. A. Frankish, Mr. K. O Hourihane, Ms. R Purcell, Prof. K. McDonald, Ms. M Ní Longáin

2. Declaration of Interests

The President referred to item 2 in the Council Agenda and reminded the Council members present of their responsibilities in this regard.

Paragraph 9 of Schedule 1 to the Pharmacy Act 2007, deals with the necessary disclosure of certain interests by members of the Council and by members of its various committees. Those requirements are also reflected in the Code of Conduct adopted for Council members which also requires that they “be honest and open with regard to conflicts of interest (either real or perceived). Members must not use their position for personal gain in either business, political or social relationships. Therefore, a member who has, or may be perceived to have, such a personal interest in a particular matter under consideration should declare that interest, withdraw from all discussions relating to it and take no part in any vote on such matter.”

A copy of paragraph 9 of Schedule 1 to the Act, relating to the disclosure of certain interests is therefore included and all members of the Committee are strongly advised to familiarise themselves with its contents.

3. Draft Minutes of public Council meeting No. 40. held on 19 September and draft minutes of public Council meeting No. 41 held on 27 September 2012.

The President sought approval of the minutes of meeting No’s. 40 and 41.

The minutes of meeting No. 40 were unanimously approved on the proposal of Mr. A. Horan and seconded by Mr. N. Stenson.

The minutes of meeting No.41 were unanimously approved on the proposal of Mr. J. Collins and seconded by Mr. F. Murphy.

3.1 Registrar's Report

Ms Ciara McGoldrick presented the Registrar's Report to Council outlining work on-going from the various units. She explained that earlier this year a working group was set up to make a submission to the Department of Health regarding the Health (Pricing and Supply of Medicinal Goods Bill 2012). A response was received and an implementation group established in August 2012. The Bill is still under consideration by the Oireachtas.

With regard to the flu vaccinations, Ms. McGoldrick stated that 900 pharmacists have finished training and vaccinations by pharmacists have begun. At the end of the 2012/2013 flu season a review of the 2012/2013 season will commence in order to learn and prepare for the 2013/2014 flu vaccination season.

In regard to the accreditation of the Hibernian Healthcare programmes, Council noted that TCD had been requested to provide the PSI Council with the outcomes of the audit processes that the provider is to ensure, from a governance and quality assurance perspective, by year end.

Ms. McGoldrick reported that at a recent meeting of the Regulators Forum, the Secretary General requested that a governance forum be established for all the agencies under the auspices of the Department of Health. The first gathering will be held at the IPA on November 5th, and Ms. McGoldrick and the President of the PSI Council, Mr. P. Fahey are attending.

Ms. McGoldrick presented an update on PSI House. The building progress is very good. The 18th January 2013 is the proposed move date. Ms. McGoldrick explained that as part of the new building there will be a museum which will house artefacts, and historical pharmaceutical items. The museum will be open to the public and members of the profession. There will be a library which will have interactive screens and an exhibition space at the front of the building which in the first instance, will be used to promote FIP 2013. In the future, the library will be a space which members of the profession will be able to use to study and work.

Ms. McGoldrick reminded Council about staffing levels and explained that during Summer 2012, a submission was made to the Department of Health regarding an increase in staffing levels at the PSI. The PSI did not receive a response and followed up with a letter. This week a further letter from the Department was received, requesting a further submission for immediate requirements.

In relation to the Corporate Strategy, Ms. McGoldrick clarified that Mr. Shane McQuillan, Partner, Crowe Horwath, assisted Council and the PSI with the last Corporate Strategy document. The Corporate Strategy for 2013-2017 is due and a tender for the provision of expert advisory assistance in the development of a Corporate Strategy (2013 – 2017) and a Service Plan 2013 for the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland was issued. Crowe Horwath has been successful in this tender and Mr. McQuillan will be engaging with the PSI from next week in relation to developing the Corporate Strategy 2013-2017 and the Service Plan for 2013.

Ms. McGoldrick informed Council in relation to the five-year fully integrated degree that the funding analysis report is in the process of being finalised. Correspondence has issued to the heads of the academic institutions that deliver an accredited pharmacy degree programme regarding the introduction of the five-year fully integrated degree programme.

In relation to the National Pharmacy Internship Programme for 2013-2014, this has been finalised with the RCSI and 4th year students have been informed. Ms. C. McGoldrick and Dr. L. Horgan attended the RCSI induction event and both presented to the students.

Ms. McGoldrick updated Council on correspondence with the Athlone Institute of Technology (AIT). The PSI has been in correspondence with AIT since last year in relation to the title of their Level 7 degree programme that had given rise to concerns. The matter of an alternative title that has been suggested by AIT will be considered by the Professional Development & Learning Committee at its next meeting on 6 November 2012.

The Acting Registrar gave a brief outline of latest updates on all the units. The President said that all the Irish stakeholders worked well together at the FIP 2012 conference in Amsterdam and were co-operative and helpful. The President informed the meeting that an email was sent to the full Irish delegation thanking them for their help and support.

The President brought to Council's attention a report on the PSI presentation on competencies and practitioner development in the *Pharmaceutical Journal (PJ)* reportage on FIP 2012 by Ms. K O Flaherty. The link to their full report will be sent to all Council members.

The President brought to Council's attention, an article in today's Irish Times in relation to the sale of Shrewsbury Road for €1.7m.

3.2 Appointment of non-Council nominees to the Council's Advisory Committees (Acting Registrar)

The President read out the nominees in relation to item 3.2 for the benefit of Prof. C. O' Driscoll who attended the meeting by teleconference. A document was circulated which made recommendations to Council for the appointment of non-Council nominees to the Council's Advisory Committees. The Council were asked to consider the nominees, then to approve the appointments. The Council unanimously approved all nominees.

3.3 Update on the Irish Institute of Pharmacy (Dr. L. Horgan)

Dr. L. Horgan updated Council on the Irish Institute of Pharmacy. Correspondence was circulated at the meeting from the RCSI regarding the extension of the date of bringing the issue of the IIoP to their Senior Management Team to 30 October. Council noted that the PSI had sent a copy of the RCSI's letter to the HSE. Dr. Horgan stated that it is hoped that a resolution will be agreed within the next 10 working days. At that stage the RCSI will be updated. Dr. Horgan reiterated that there is a firm commitment from both the Department of Health and the HSE to the Irish Institute of Pharmacy.

3.4 Update on the Five-Year Fully Integrated Degree Programme and Interim 4+1 (Dr. L. Horgan)

Dr. Horgan reported that at the National Forum meeting held on 18 October, the Heads of the Schools of Pharmacy presented the outcome of their risk-benefit analysis on the feasibility of the implementation of the integrated Masters in Pharmacy in the 2013-'14 academic year. This analysis was based on a SWOT analysis which allowed the identification of both high and medium level risks. The Forum's view was that the new programme would not be ready to roll out in 2013. An aspirational date for commencement in September 2014 was set, however. The National Forum agreed that at its next scheduled meeting on 8

November it would seek to find solutions and address the feasibility concerns raised by the Schools. The outcome of that meeting should allow an implementation update to be presented to Council on 4th December.

The President said that the work on the Five-Year Fully Integrated Degree Programme is progressing very well. He stated that it was good to see the Schools bringing issues to the Forum and while the 2013 date may have been optimistic, a date in 2014 should be achievable.

The President moved to AOB and asked all staff members to leave the room before the commencement of the private meeting.

The meeting concluded at 10.35am.