



Submission to the Nursing and Midwifery
Board of Ireland on a draft Statement of
Strategy
2017-2019

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Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland
PSI House, 15-19 Fenian Street
Dublin 2, D02 TD72
01 218 4000
www.psi.ie

Introduction

We welcome the opportunity, as the pharmacy regulator, to provide input during the NMBI's development of a next Statement of Strategy for the period 2017-2019.

We provide the comments below in reflection of our remit, like the NMBI's, to protect and promote the health, safety and wellbeing of patients and the public. The PSI particularly acknowledges the importance of continued engagement between the health and social care regulators, so as to share knowledge, information and learning where it is useful, and to ensure that we can achieve efficiency of services and resources in our public interest roles.

Feedback on the Draft Statement of Strategy 2017-2019

The draft Statement of Strategy consultation document clearly presents the intent of the NMBI and is succinct in its description of the organisation and its principal functions.

The draft appears to set out several areas for improvement and enhancement over the next three years; matters that an organisation must continue to address over its lifetime, in the face of a changing environment, technology and regulatory models. The three priority statements incorporate the NMBI's recognition of the need to continually demonstrate its effectiveness, striving to serve the public interest.

The draft strategy consists of significant operational goals, and consideration may need to be given to the inclusion of more strategic elements to drive the vision of the organisation as the NMBI moves forward. This will allow the NMBI to focus and direct its work over the next three years and further into the future.

In addition, the NMBI may wish to establish more prominently the reputational element that must also be attributed to the professions themselves, and the regulator's role in facilitating professionalism and best practice with enhanced standards, guidelines and ethical codes, as necessary. Our regulatory roles recognise that only those sufficiently educated and trained, and working in compliance with the regulatory structure, legislation and national guidelines, may enjoy the privilege of practicing a profession which has resulting consequences on people, often in a vulnerable period of life. The NMBI's role is one that facilitates and should encourage that understanding, but it must rely too on the willing engagement of the professions at all stages of education, training and practice, and their recognition of the position they hold in Irish society. This can be supported by a demonstrated strength of leadership and governance by the regulator, an intrinsic part of raising the profile, reputation and proving, by example, the benefits of compliance in the interests of all.

The PSI looks forward to continuing to work with the NMBI in delivering on our regulatory roles to provide and assure patient and public health and safety, and under the auspices of the formal Memorandum of Understanding signed between our organisations in 2014.