

ROYAL PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

Welsh Pharmacy Board meeting 20 September 2024

OPEN BUSINESS

Minutes of the Welsh Pharamcy Board Open Business meeting held on Friday 20 September 2024 AT 9.30AM

**RPS Wales Office, 2 Ash Tree, Woodsy Close, Cardiff Gate Business Park, Cardiff, CF23 8RW
and via teams meeting**

Present

Welsh Pharmacy Board

Geraldine Mccaffrey Chair (GM), Richard Evans (RE), Dylan Jones (DJ), Liz Hallett (LH), Rhian Lloyd Evans (RLE), Gareth Hughes (GH), Aled Roberts (AR), Rafia Jamil (RJ), Lowri Puw (LP) Helen Davies (HD) Via Teams.

In attendance

Elen Jones Director (EJ), Paul Bennett CEO (PB), Professor Claire Anderson President (CA), Alwyn Fortune Policy and Engagement Lead (AF), Iwan Hughes Head of External Affairs (IH), Dafydd Rizzo Policy and Public Affairs Executive (DR).

Attendance via Teams

Corrine Burns PJ (CB), Professor Diane Ashiru – Oredope Deputy Chief Scientist (DA), Item 4 only, Hanna Jennvy Head of Events, (HJ) Item 7 only, Cath Ward Business Manager (CW).

Apologies

Eleri Schiavone (ES)

Item (approx. start time)	Subject	
1 (9.30am)	Welcome	The Chair welcomed Welsh Pharmacy Board (WPB) Members, and staff to the meeting.
	Apologies	Apologies were received from Eleri Schiavone, Rhian Lloyd Evans would be late attending.
2	Declarations of Interests	<p>24.09.WPB.02(a) Declarations of interest were noted by the WPB.</p> <p>Amendments needed to be made to Dylan Jones and Richard Evans declarations of interest.</p> <p>Action 1 – CW to make amendments for November board meeting.</p>
3	Minutes and matters arising	<p>24.09.WPB.03 The WPB agreed that the minutes of the WPB meeting held on 18th June and 19th June were an accurate record of the proceedings.</p> <p>Proposed by Dylan Jones and seconded by - Lowri Puw</p> <p>Matters arising 24.06.WPB.09 (ii) - Send declarations of interest to WPB. Action completed. 24.06.WPB.10 – Share information of the Senedd Perception survey with CB. Action completed. 24.06.WPB.12 – Country Directors to take ideas around business planning for 2025 and develop a workplan to bring to the next board meeting in September. Action completed. 24.06.NPB.13 - Review RPS position on self-selection of P Medicines in Community Pharmacy using evidence to support any changes and to use the RPS Expert Advisory groups when gathering evidence. Agenda Item.</p>

4 (9.40)	Science and Research	<p>Professor Diane Ashiru-Oredope, Deputy Chief Scientist presented an update on the Work of the Science and Research Team.</p> <p>The presentation covered the S&R team and committee with a focus on ongoing work, project work and suggested policy areas for the Board to consider.</p> <p>The team are focused on developing research capability and capacity in pharmacy alongside driving innovation and building the evidence base. The work of the team has an external (member focused) and internal focus.</p> <p>The board noted that the team have three working groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New Medicines and Emerging Technologies - Research Across the Profession - Safer Medicines and Safer Medicines Usage - There are also proposals for a new Working Group – to be ratified at SRC meeting in Nov 2024 <p>The board discussed the importance of research for pharmacy professionals and that it should be active research – to demonstrate supporting and delivering the agenda, noting that is not only about clinical trials.</p> <p>They also discussed the role of RPS providing support on research methods to support colleagues and also that research is needed in day to day roles.</p> <p>The board asked if there are any literature reviews to enable members to see what methods of research are used in NHRA = NIHR.</p> <p>The board noted that the plan is to demystify research and this part of the myth busting is happening with the Opra award jointly with NHRA and elearning modules. WPB asked if RPS can publish and share case studies.</p> <p>DAO advised that there are pages on website looking at research methods and a webinar will be held soon. As a team, S&R are working through this and are working with UK advisory groups and networks working with the UK advisory group on</p>
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		<p>Clinical Academic Career pathway.</p> <p>Action 2 - DAO agreed to take this back and see what packages there are available to support research for members</p> <p>Suggested policy areas for the board to consider</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A strong stance on vaping - Raising public awareness of dangers of online purchasing - Position statement on Medicines Reuse <p>EJ advised that WPB took a strong stance against vaping and the use of e cigarettes when developing policy in 2021 in this area. This resulted in the RPS stepping back from some working groups where vaping was being advocated for as part of smoking cessation services, and this proved to be absolutely the right stance to take . The evidence continually emerges in this area and S&R team are well placed to update the board on this.</p> <p>Action 3 - DAO To produce and present a paper for Boards that is clear of the ask of the RPS Boards in terms of any potential strengthening of the stance on vaping, following on from our current policy. Naturally, the three National Boards will need to discuss and mutually agree on next steps.</p>
5 (10:00)	Open Display of P medicines	<p>EJ advised that following the detailed discussion at the June board meeting, the results of the call for evidence and the subsequent report on this evidence, produced by the S&R team, will be available for board members at the November meeting. This will enable board members to analyse and reflect on this information and determine the way forward for policy in this area.</p>
6 (10: 10)	Public Affairs update	<p>IH presented this item.</p> <p>He advised that following the results of the Sendedd Perception audit RPS are showing:-</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Far greater clarity in the role of RPS and how we differ from other organisations, - RPS seen as <u>influential and informative</u> organisation – on pharmacy and health issues. - Growth in '<u>reputation</u>' - Growth in '<u>effectiveness of communication</u>' - Growth in '<u>influencing policy development</u>' <p>This growth is attributed to regular engagement at the Senedd, more email briefings, more meetings and visits and most importantly for 'knowledge of pharmacy/RPS' and reputation and constant reinforcement 'our key messages'.</p> <p>Next steps – To maintain the focus on reputation IH asked the board to consider establishing 4 key policy asks of MS's which will be the themes for the four Senedd events and will ultimately become the RPS Wales Manifesto Asks for the upcoming Assembly Elections.</p> <p>The board were happy with the approach being forward looking and also agreed to set up a short life working group.</p> <p>LP, RJ, RLE, GH and LH all agreed to be part of this group</p> <p>Action 4– IH to set up a short life working group to determine the four key policy asks for Senedd events.</p>
7 (10.30)	Events update	<p>Hanna Jenvy presented the update.</p> <p>HJ gave a flavour of the activity of the Events delivered to date.</p> <p>She advised that 2024 RPS Events delivered to date: 89 2024 RPS Event attendees: 8,823</p> <p>There are currently 44 upcoming events open for registration via the RPS website (64% in-person)</p>

		<p>This weeks tangible outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enabling RPS Members to observe all 3 Country Board meetings online, 1 Expert Advisory Group meeting and 1 Action Group meeting all taking place this week - On-site delivering the RPS Wales Conference in Cardiff - Delivering Recognition events in Wales and Scotland - On-site delivering a 5-day venue hire booking at 66ES for an external organisation - Launched resit RPS Mock Assessment for Foundation Trainees preparing for November <p>WPB were asked to join events and cascade to colleagues to register at the Conference.</p> <p>Annual Conference update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annual conference – encourage colleagues to join - Again this year the conference will be spread conference across two floors, and taking on board the feedback from last year where delegates felt that there was a disconnect. Posters will be judged on both floors. There will also be catering on both floors Disconnect last year posterb across two floors. <p>WPB were asked to sign up for the conference, if they hadn't to date and make themselves available for the RPS Zone during the day.</p>
8 (10:50)	Papers for noting with a short update	<p>24.09.04(i) (ii) (iii) and (iv)(v) (vi) (vii)</p> <p>WPB noted the papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Implementing Country Visions (ii) Strengthening Pharmacy (iii) GovernanceProfessional Issues (iv) Workforce (v) SRC update (vi) Education and Professional Development

		<p>(vii) Assessment and Credentilling update</p> <p>GM noted that the focus of work around Health Inequalities should remain strong for the organisation and would like further updates in subsequent board papers on work in this area. Work in this area is currently being supported by S&RC and remains a key focus and strand that runs through all work at the RPS and through lobbying work, highlighting the essential role pharmacy plays in helping address health inequalities and the determinants of these.</p>
9.	Any other business	There was no other business notified to the Chair within the 48 hours before the meeting.
10.	Date of next meeting	7 November 2024– face to face in London (day before RPS conference)
		Meeting closed at 11.05