

## Annual Report 2005-2006

### Key successes

- Maintenance & development of an electronic recruitment system for preregistration pharmacist trainees in England and Wales ([www.pharmacytraining.nhs.uk](http://www.pharmacytraining.nhs.uk))
- Review of "National Training Manual for Student Pharmacy Technicians" for NVQ Level 3 Pharmacy Services Qualification

During the period from September 2005 - August 2006, the committee has undertaken the following activities:

### National Occupational Standards for Pharmacy – Skills for Health

Members of the committee have been involved in Skills for Health work to develop National Occupational Standards for Pharmacy, and contributed to the review of the S/NVQ Levels 2 and 3 Pharmacy Services Qualification structure.

### Quality Assurance of training programmes for pre-registration trainee pharmacists

The development of a system of peer review of training programmes for pre-registration trainee pharmacists was begun. It is hoped that once formal quality assurance of pre-registration training programmes is implemented by the RPSGB under the Section 60 order, this peer review system will form part of the quality assurance process.

### Centres for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education

Links have been strengthened by attendance of the new Director of the Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education (CPPE) in England.

Other committee members hail from Northern Ireland Centre for Postgraduate Pharmaceutical Education & Training (NICPPET) in Northern Ireland, Welsh Centre for Postgraduate Pharmaceutical Education (WCPPE) in Wales & National Education Scotland (NES) in Scotland.

### Four Home Countries

The committee links with NHS in each of the 4 home countries of the UK and is mindful of the need to keep abreast of and support the NHS in each of the 4 home countries as policies emerge and evolve.

### Progress in developing an NHS scheme for Accredited Checking in Technical Services

This work (see 2004-2005 Annual Report) has progressed and was piloted in 2005-2006.

### Review of the nationally agreed framework for final accuracy checking of dispensed items for pharmacy technicians

Committee members collated information to inform the 2006 review of this scheme.

### National Staffing Survey of NHS Pharmacy Staffing Establishment and Vacancies to inform workforce planning

This important survey was not carried out during the transition to Agenda for Change banding, but will be repeated in 2006-2007.

### Supporting the introduction of Agenda for Change for pre-registration trainee pharmacists and pre-registration trainee pharmacy technicians

Committee members have shared information on banding results, use of transitional points and preceptorship increments for pre-registration trainee pharmacists. Information on employer contributions to funding for these posts has been collated and shared. Committee members continued to liaise with local Strategic Health Authorities / Workforce Development Confederations to help to maintain current student numbers across the NHS.

### Trainee salaries and Agenda for Change

The committee has been monitoring the impact of the introduction of AfC on funding for trainees. Funding pressures have resulted in reductions in pre-registration trainee pharmacist numbers to be recruited for 2007-2008, and the introduction of significant employer contributions to salaries in some areas. The committee has been actively involved in collating data in order to inform employers, commissioners, RPSGB and DoH of the situation.

### Specialist Groups

The Support Staff and Preregistration Training Specialist Groups continued to be effective in developing joint initiatives, disseminating and sharing information. In particular, key links were maintained and developed with City & Guilds, Edexcel (NVQ Awarding bodies) and the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain (RPSGB).

### Meeting with RPSGB Cross Sector Experience (CSE) facilitators

Following the announcement by RPSGB Council that CSE was not going to be mandatory for the 2006-2007 intake, RPSGB facilitators were invited to attend a meeting of the Preregistration Training Specialist Group to provide the RPSGB with an NHS view of the change in practice

### Information and advice provided to national bodies on policy and practice in pharmacy education:

- Members of the Pre-registration Training Specialist Group represented the NHS (England, Scotland & Wales) on the newly formed stakeholders group of the RPSGB Preregistration Liaison Group.
- Members of the committee are representing NHS England, Scotland and Wales on the RPSGB Cross Sector Experience Working Party
- A committee member represents the NHS at the meeting of Senior Executives of Pharmacy Employers with RPSGB representatives
- Members of the committee represented NHS preregistration trainers at the RPSGB training managers' liaison meeting
- Representatives from the committee attend the RPSGB Pharmacy Sector committee
- Members of the committee provided information on pharmacy careers to NHS Careers
- DoH Pharmacy Workforce Think Tank – linking in with National Workforce Review Team

### Responses to consultations

The committee sent responses to the following draft documents proposing future national policy:

- Section 60 Order Consultation
- RPSGB Review of Pharmacy Sector Committee



Website: [www.nhspecd.nhs.uk](http://www.nhspecd.nhs.uk)  
including Northern Ireland



Website: [www.nhspecd.nhs.uk](http://www.nhspecd.nhs.uk)  
including Northern Ireland

