

PSI Public Consultation Report  
on the  
Draft PSI (Education & Training)  
(Integrated Course) (Amendment)  
Rules 2026

January 2026

## 1. Introduction

The Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland (PSI), as the statutory regulator of pharmacy, is responsible for ensuring that the education and training of pharmacists comply with national and EU legal requirements.

This report summarises the public consultation process and the feedback received during the public consultation on the draft PSI (Education & Training) (Integrated Course) (Amendment) Rules 2026 (Appendix 1).

## 2. Background

EU Directive 2005/36/EC is the EU Directive on Recognition of Professional Qualifications. This directive sets out the minimum training requirements for a number of professional qualifications including pharmacy. Article 44 of this directive sets out the pharmacist training requirements. This directive was amended in 2024 as regards the minimum training requirements for the professions of nurse responsible for general care, dental practitioner and **pharmacist**.

In a 2011 Geen Paper on the modernisation of Directive 2005/36/EC, the EU Commission acknowledged the need to modernise the harmonised minimum training requirements in different phases.

The Commission Delegated Directive (EU) 2024/782, published on 4 March 2024, introduced significant updates to these training requirements, including additions to the core curriculum and the competencies that pharmacy graduates must acquire. Member States must transpose these changes by **4 March 2026**.

The PSI (Education & Training) (Integrated Course) Rules 2014 transposes into Irish law the harmonised minimum training requirements for pharmacists set out in Article 44 of Directive 2005/36/EC. The Schedule in the Rules sets out the 'certain minimum competencies to be acquired in a programme leading to obtaining qualification as a pharmacist'

To fulfil this obligation, the PSI drafted the **PSI (Education & Training) (Integrated Course) (Amendment) Rules 2026**, amending the 2014 Rules to reflect the updated EU standards. The PSI Council approved the draft Rules for public consultation on **11 December 2025**.

## 3. Public Consultation Process

### 3.1 Purpose of the Consultation

In accordance with the Pharmacy Act 2007 (as amended), the PSI is required to undertake a public consultation where there are proposed changes to be made to statutory rules. The consultation provided the opportunity to highlight these proposed changes to stakeholders who will be impacted by the changes.

### 3.2 About the Consultation

The public consultation opened on **16 December 2025** for a period of four weeks, closing on **14 January 2026**. An email with a link to the survey was sent directly to a limited number of stakeholders who would potentially be impacted by the changes to the legislation.

All registrants were made aware of the consultation through the PSI newsletter which was issued on 22 December 2025. It was also published under the 'Public Consultations' section of the PSI website and shared across social media. Respondents were invited to provide feedback through an online survey or by submitting comments by email.

### 3.3 Consultation Response

A total of **seven** responses were received:

- **Six** via survey
- **One** via email

Only **three** respondents consented to their feedback being included in a consultation report.

The three respondents agreed that they considered the proposed amendments to the PSI (Education & Training)(Integrated Course) Rules 2014 to be proportionate to achieving their public interest objective.

Two Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) provided some commentary as set out below.

#### HEI 1

- Was aware of the changes to the EU Directive.
- Had already mapped the new EU minimum training requirements to modules in their MPharm programme for the 2025 accreditation.
- Confirmed that their MPharm programme complies with the updated Directive.
- Raised no concerns.

## HEI 2

- Welcomed the updates to the EU Directive.
- Expressed support for PSI's approach to transposition through amendment of the Education & Training Rules.
- Raised no concerns.

## 4. PSI Response

The PSI notes all responses with thanks. The feedback was considered by the PSI's Executive, the Regulatory and Professional Policy Committee and Council and it was determined that **no amendments to the draft Rules were required** following the consultation.

## 5. Conclusion

No objections or concerns were raised about the proposed draft Rules. Therefore, no amendments are proposed as a result of feedback received through the public consultation.