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## Agenda Item H.1

### Report on material decisions of the Regulatory and Professional Policy Committee

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From: Rory O'Donnell, Chair of the Regulatory and Professional Policy Committee

The Regulatory and Professional Policy Committee met on Thursday, 20 February 2025, at 10 am. The meeting was held online on Microsoft Teams.

The agenda items below refer to the matters before Council for decision.

The full agenda for the meeting can be found in Annex 1, which highlights additional items discussed and items for information only.

#### Agenda Item E.1 – Approval of draft Regulatory and Professional Policy Committee Workplan 2025

The Committee discussed the draft Regulatory and Professional Policy Committee Workplan 2025 that sets out the planned activities and strategic projects that will be overseen by the Regulatory and Professional Policy Committee. The Committee noted the indicative schedule of work to be carried out in 2025.

**The Committee is recommending its Regulatory and Professional Policy Committee Workplan 2025 be approved by Council at its 6 March meeting.**

#### Agenda Item G.1 –Consideration of public consultation report and approval of proposed amendments to PSI (CPD) Rules and PSI (Registration) Rules

The Committee considered the draft public consultation report. The Committee heard that following approval of the draft rules for public consultation by Council in December, a public consultation had been carried out in January and there had been good engagement with the consultation among registrants. The Committee heard that a number of additional resources had been developed to communicate the proposed changes to pharmacists, pharmaceutical assistants, the public and other key stakeholders, including a short information video and a comprehensive bank of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's).

The Committee discussed the draft consultation report, noting the high response rate and largely positive responses. The Committee discussed some of the mixed views expressed by pharmacists, particularly in relation to the move to annual submission of CPD records and a policy-based approach to the quality assurance of CPD activities delivered by the IOP. The Committee highlighted that the report showed potential confusion among some registrants of what the changes would mean in practice, despite the significant accompanying information provided.

The Committee heard that, pending Council approval of the draft rules, further communication was planned to support understanding of the changes among pharmacists and pharmaceutical assistants, prior to commencement of the new process.

**The Committee is recommending that the public consultation report and draft rules be approved by Council at its 6 March meeting.**

## Annex 1



### ***Agenda for the PSI Regulatory and Professional Policy Committee held on 20 February 2025 at 10am.***

***The meeting will be held online on Microsoft Teams.***

***Colour code: Red—for decision; Green—for discussion; Blue—for information***

Agenda Notation: \* = document in advance; \*\* = presented in slide deck, \*\*\* = verbal update

Indicative time	Item and descriptor		Presenter
10.00	A	Apologies	Chair
10.02	B	Declaration of Interests (See appendix A below)	Chair
10.03	C	Approval of Meeting Agenda*	Chair
10.04	D	Approval of Minutes - 28 November 2024 meeting*	Chair
10.05	E	Regulatory and Professional Policy Committee Workplan 2025	Chair
	E.1	Approval of draft RPP Committee Workplan 2025*	
10.20	F	Operationalisation of Third Country Qualification Recognition Route	D Gaughan L Irwin
	F.1	TCQR update***	
10.30	G	Continuing Professional Development System for Pharmacists and Pharmaceutical Assistants	C O'Connell P Corbett
	G.1	Consideration of public consultation report and approval of proposed amendments to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PSI (CPD) Rules</li> <li>PSI (Registration) Rules*</li> </ul>	
	G.2	Project Health Card update*	
10.50	H	Irish Institute of Pharmacy (IIOP) updates	C O'Connell P Corbett
	H.1	Update on IIOP procurement***	

	H.2	Quarterly update on IOP operations and developments*	
11.05	I	Implement Taskforce recommendations	D Burns
	I.1	Implementation of Taskforce recommendations update**	
	I.2	Project Health Card update*	
11.25	J	Pharmacy Workforce Project	C O'Connell L Hamra
	J.1	2024 State of the Register Survey Report*	
	J.2	Draft Annual Report 2024 of Workforce Working Group*	
	J.3	Project Health Card update*	
11.45	K	2025 Work Plan Projects – Project Health Card updates	
	K.1	Propose and implement policy changes agreed with the Department of Health that relate to pharmacists and pharmacy services*	D Burns
	K.2	Accreditation of New and Existing MPharm programmes*	C O'Connell
	K.3	Patient and public involvement in our work*	D Burns
	K.4	Regulatory response to digital health*	D Burns
	K.5	Advance reform of the Pharmacy Act*	D Burns
	K.6	Exempt Medicinal Products***	J Kissane/O Carroll
	K.7	Review of the fitness to practise complaints process***	C O'Connell
12.10	L	Self-evaluation of RPP Committee	
	L.1	Outputs of Self-Evaluation survey December 2024*	Chair
12.25	M.1	In-person meeting dates 2025	Chair
	M.2	AOB	
	M.3	- Close of meeting -	

***We anticipate the meeting should end at approximately: 12.30pm  
Rory O'Donnell, Chair of the Regulatory and Professional Policy Committee***

## **APPENDIX A**

### ***Pharmacy Act 2007 Schedule 1, Section 9: Disclosure of certain interests***

9. (1) In this paragraph— “connected relative”, in relation to a person, means a spouse, a man and woman who are not married to each other but are cohabiting as husband and wife, parent, brother, sister, child or spouse of a child of the person;

“meeting” means a meeting of the Council or of a committee of the Council;

“member” includes a member of a committee of the Council;

“specified matter” means—

- (a) an arrangement to which the Council is a party or a proposed such arrangement, or
- (b) a contract or other agreement with the Council or a proposed such contract or agreement.

(2) A member present at a meeting where a specified matter arises who, otherwise than in his or her capacity as a member, has an interest in that matter—

- (a) shall at the meeting, disclose that fact and the extent of the interest,
- (b) may not influence or seek to influence a decision to be made in relation to the matter,
- (c) shall absent himself or herself from the meeting or that part of the meeting during which the matter is being discussed,
- (d) may not vote on a decision relating to the matter, and
- (e) may not take part in any further deliberation of the Council or any of its committees relating to the matter.

(3) For the purposes of this paragraph, but without prejudice to the generality of *subparagraph (2)*, a member shall be regarded as having an interest in a matter if a connected relative of that member or a nominee of either of them has such an interest.

(4) The disclosure shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting and, for as long as the specified matter is being dealt with by the meeting, the member making the disclosure may not be counted for the purposes of determining the presence of a quorum for the meeting.

(5) The question of whether a member’s course of conduct, is or would be a contravention of *subparagraph (2)* shall be determined by the chair, whose decision shall be final, and the particulars of the determination shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

(6) Where the member referred to in *subparagraph (4)* is the chair, the meeting shall choose another member to chair it for the purposes of the determination.

(7) If satisfied that a member has contravened *subparagraph (2)*, the Minister may remove the member from office and that person is then disqualified from office.