

Appendix A

Lindsey Gilpin – statement

Firstly I must thank everyone, board members and staff alike for your help over the last year. I spoke last year of a steep learning curve –well it got steeper and it was the support of colleagues that helped me along the way.

I also said how important I thought communication was, I feel now that we are in a much better position with our communication with our members, with other pharmacy bodies and with specialist groups – having some very meaningful dialogues although acknowledging that we still have a way to go.

I hope you feel that as a Board I have kept you informed, listened to you and acted on your concerns. It was also my aim that even with matters which are strictly in the remit of the Assembly, the Board should always express its view and that view should be heard.

On the subject of the Assembly, if re-elected, I will also continue to press for a fair distribution of the resources of the RPS for the members in England and I will continue to challenge the GPhC where their views may not coincide with ours.

With regard to the last year, I think it has been a great year for the English Pharmacy Board, we have measured up to the challenges of the changes to the NHS and have actively contributed to the consultation responses.

We have written at length about all sorts of topics, spoken at meetings, conferences and debates, on the radio and on television. I know that some of us have done this before but this time it is for our new professional body and so there is a special significance to everything we have done. Our media mash clip shows just how much the profile of pharmacy has been raised.

We have reached a place with the supervision debate at which we understand our members' views and we are now in a position to join this into the review of the impact of the responsible pharmacist legislation to look at the matter more fully.

We have taken up the issue of workplace pressure which we have enlarged into empowering pharmacists. Research is now being undertaken on the resources needed for differing levels of work in both community and hospital. We are publishing a document on workplace pressure setting out the duties of all parties and a locum template to assist locums as they start work at a new pharmacy.

We are working towards the RPS vision, moving to enable pharmacist prescribers, pressing for sharing patient records for medicine safety, increasing cancer

awareness, working with others around transfer of care and lobbying hard for original pack dispensing and barcode reading, again putting the safety of the patient first.

The Board has taken particular interest in the future of pharmacy education and with our representative on MEE and MPC, Professor Bates, has worked to ensure RPS input for the future of the profession.

We have set out our work plan for the year. It's a plan of which I think we are all proud and which will positively affect every member.

Last year I was asked what my aims for the year were, I replied they were:

- Listening to members
- Breaking down the barriers between pharmacy sectors
- Raising the profile and confidence of pharmacists

This year, if elected, I will add one more, helping the Board and staff to work through the business plan to enable all those great things we have planned for members to be achieved and so this English Board of our beautiful new society will leave a long and positive legacy for its members.

Lindsey Gilpin

16 June 2011