

Welcome to the July 2021 CPWY Committee Blog!

Wright or Wrong? You Decide!

I'm going to start off with the key message of this blog, so if you don't have time to read the whole thing, please at least read the following paragraph.

We are in the middle of the biggest shake-up of our current representation and support for a long time. The findings of the [Wright Review](#) (published in June 2020) recommend some quite significant changes in the way we negotiate for our future, and how we are represented locally. If you are happy to let other people develop these recommendations without you then you can stop reading now. If, however, you would like to help shape the future of our profession then now is your chance to get involved. Contractors or their representatives can sign up to join one of the [Review Focus Groups](#) and have their say in how our profession evolves. Contractors will be invited to vote on the outcomes of the Review towards the end of the year and it is imperative that **all** contractors have their voices heard.

Want to know more?

The Wright Review was commissioned by PSNC because they acknowledged that our current structure was not working as effectively as it could and indeed, should have. Professor David Wright from the School of Pharmacy at the University of East Anglia spent many months talking to representatives of our profession and compared how we conducted our negotiations to other professions who had more successful outcomes from their contract negotiations. *Why were they more successful? What was it about the make-up of their negotiating committees that led to more positive results?* We know that the current PSNC team work damned hard but when you're banging your head against a brick wall that's reinforced with concrete and steel, you've got to acknowledge that you're not getting through it and look at a change of strategy.

Professor Wright came up with a list of 33 recommendations of changes to our structure and governance. The changes relate to LPCs as well as the PSNC, with the most significant changes being that the elected PSNC committee should be replaced by a council of LPC chairs, and all local and national representation should be overseen by a separate governing body.

Representatives from all relevant parties involved in community pharmacy have been invited to form the Review Steering Group (RSG). This group is responsible for driving the process forwards and part of that process is to consider the views of all contractors. The outcomes of this review and the changes made on the back of it will affect us all, and that is why the RSG is inviting contractors or their representatives to join one of the [Review Focus Groups](#). This is our chance to find out more about the proposed changes and share our views about how we want the review to proceed.

Even if you don't feel that you want to contribute to one of the focus groups, all contractors will be invited to vote on the outcomes of the Review towards the end of the year. It is vital that every contractor has their say and uses their vote. Do not leave it to others to decide your future.

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