



**ADRODDIAD GAN Y
PWYLLGOR DEDDFAU**

**LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
REPORT**

The National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2006

These Regulations amend the National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 1992 ("the 1992 Regulations") by providing that doctors who have been granted consent to dispense under the 1992 Regulations will be able to claim payment under the Statement of Financial Entitlements in the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme.

The Regulations were made under the Executive procedure on 15 November 2006 and came in to force on 16 November 2006.

Standing Order 11.7

No points have been identified for reporting under Standing Order 11.7.

Observations

It is understood that the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme ("the Scheme") will be implemented through an amendment to The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements. Those Directions outline the payments to be made to GMS contractors. However, the 1992 Regulations also link the payment to be made to those dispensing doctors providing their services, by virtue of consent under the 1992 Regulations, to the payments to be made to GMS Contractors pursuant to the Statement of Financial Entitlements ("the SEE"). The proposed

amendment to the Regulations will provide that the link to the SFE extends to any additional services associated with the dispensing process that may be provided by a dispensing doctor. At present the link only relates to the provision of drugs and appliances.

As the Scheme is part of the 2006/07 negotiated agreement for GPs, these Regulations (together with the amendment SFE Directions) need to come into force on 16 November 2006 in order to benefit patients in Wales and enable GMS Contractors to claim payment. In addition, the Scheme provides for GPs to give a two month undertaking to Local Health Boards that they wish to participate in the Scheme. After 1 February 2007, as in the SFE amendment Direction, no GP can participate in the Scheme. This means that the very latest this scheme can be implemented is 1 December 2006. Therefore, if these Regulations (and the amending SFE Directions) are not made by that date then Contractors could not participate in the new Dispensary Services Quality Scheme.

David Melding AM

Chair, Legislation Committee

5 December 2006