



**THE ASSOCIATION OF  
PHARMACY TECHNICIANS UK**

# **APTUK**

Leading and supporting a recognised and valued  
pharmacy technician profession



Supporting pharmacy technicians  
today for tomorrow

**Strategy  
2022-2026**

# Leading and supporting a recognised and valued pharmacy technician profession

## President's introduction

On behalf of the Association of Pharmacy Technicians UK (APTUK) executive committee, I am delighted to launch the 2022-2026 strategy for members and key stakeholders.

Working with the committee and members, including our newly appointed member observers, the 2022-2026 strategy has been developed to reflect the current and future opportunities for members and the pharmacy technician profession.

Our mission is clear, we exist to champion and advocate for the profession, ensuring that the profession is valued and recognised and able to provide the best pharmaceutical services for our patients.

We provide professional development opportunities and the chance to enhance your leadership skills and career opportunities through branches and other networking opportunities. We have the profession's best interests at the heart of all we do.

The role of the pharmacy technician has expanded in recent times, partly in recognition of our valuable services, especially during the global pandemic. Learning from this has been considered when developing this strategy. Where does the profession need to be in the next 5 years and how can the professional leadership body lead that? APTUK is committed to working with key stakeholders collaboratively to do this, and this features in our organisational priorities.

Sustainability for APTUK is key, as we move to the 2022-2026 strategy it is important to reflect on what has been delivered since 2019. We listened to members in our 2019 membership survey and can be proud as an Association that we have -

- **highest ever number of members in APTUK 70-year history**
- **recruited a key strategic operational post**
- **modernised our payment methods**
- **further developed our website and materials**
- **grown and supported national and local branches**



These are all key objectives delivered that underpin APTUK's future and set the scene for the next 5 years of growth. Each of the Association's organisational priorities are aligned to ensuring a strong future. Balancing member's needs, professional representation and the need for organisational sustainability is key.

We need growth and this strategy provides a clear outcome focussed trajectory on how we can achieve that. Our strategy is forward focussed, we have identified growth in our pre-registration trainee pharmacy technician (PTPT) membership and want to offer future registrants professional development support throughout their career. We have set ourselves the ambitious target of converting 75% of our PTPT members into full membership, for those eligible, and have worked on strategies to make that attractive. After all, there is a future president waiting to be professionally supported into this privileged leadership position. We will continue to offer our long-standing committed members what they require but we must have membership growth.

We look to our members for support with this. Be proud of your membership and encourage your colleagues to join.

We will also be offering professional development packages to pharmacy support staff including assistants, dispensers, and medicines counter assistants. We value working with our pharmacy colleagues and want to offer professional development and recognise that many attend branches as way of support. We will formalise this in 2022 and welcome associate membership. We will consult on this important organisational priority.

Strategies can be documents that sit on the shelf, but our profession is known for its 'getting it done' attitude, therefore underpinning this strategy will be an annual operational plan. This will be published every year at the Members Business Meeting and will demonstrate APTUK's commitment to being outcome focussed for our members.

The future is exciting and, as we enter our 70<sup>th</sup> year, the Association is strong, but we could be stronger and achieve so much more. This strategy provides focus and outcome measures that the profession can be proud of.

There is no better time to join us.

**Liz Fidler, FAPharmT  
President**

January 2022

## Our mission

Through strong, influential, and professional leadership we will ensure that the voice of the pharmacy technician is heard. We will develop a valued profession recognised in its own right, extending scope of practice to improve pharmacy services to benefit patients' lives

# APTUK organisational priorities 2022-2026

We have identified six core priorities to explain how we will achieve our mission over the next 5 years:

## 1 Promote pharmacy technicians (and APTUK) at every opportunity

### Through:

- Clear communications articulating the role of the pharmacy technician to patients and employers to drive value and recognition for the profession
- Driving legislation changes to ensure the profession can support pharmaceutical and patient services utilising the full scope of practice. In particular, Patient Group Directions and supervision
- Supporting pharmacy technician registration in Northern Ireland

## 2 Lead and represent the profession

### Through:

- Active representation at country and national levels
- Developing strong, impactful relationships with key stakeholders who impact pharmacy technician roles, education, and career pathways
- Representation in decision-making forums which is not tokenist; where our view is wanted and respected
- Delivery of pharmacy-led and healthcare projects
- Encouraging professional growth by providing opportunities for members to lead and represent the profession in areas of subject matter expertise

## 3 Enable access to education

### Through:

- Visibility of personal development opportunities through career pathways
- Promoting the use of robust education frameworks
- Improving access to post registration education/training
- Supporting the profession with recognised education provision including robust quality assurance via APTUK kite marks
- Offering professional development packages to pharmacy support staff including assistants, dispensers, and medicines counter assistants

# 4 Provide value to our members

## Through:

- Creating an aspirational membership with a sense of belonging and pride in the professional leadership body
- Providing easy access to local branches and networks
- Regular and effective two-way communications with our membership
- Delivering relevant, interesting events, seen as highlights and essential to attend
- Creating an easy-to-use website with interesting up-to-date content providing key reference points

# 5 Run an efficient and sustainable organisation

## Through:

- Developing a membership growth strategy including Pre-registration Trainee Pharmacy Technicians conversion to full membership, enabling reinvestment in member benefits and Association sustainability
- Increased funding through sponsorship for events and activities
- Reviewing non-member terms for attending branch meetings
- Operating systems that really work
- Integration of digital technology wherever appropriate, including virtual working and introduction of a digital app
- Responsible organisational management – promoting sustainability, good practice, equality/diversity/inclusion, wellbeing, environmental sustainability etc

# 6 Develop High performing teams

## Through:

- Providing mentoring and professional development opportunities at every level of the Association whilst facilitating succession planning for executive committee posts
- Increasing attraction to committee/project posts so opportunities align with individual career aspirations
- Ensuring functions integrate and we work together well
- Increasing the number of paid posts so we are not solely reliant on individuals or goodwill, linked to membership growth strategy
- Strengthening engagement with APTUK branches to provide a sense of ownership and integration with the executive committee whilst enabling creativity from branch members

# APTUK values and behaviours

Our values and behaviours are central to how we operate. They form part of the Executive Committee job descriptions and our general recruitment process.

## Committed

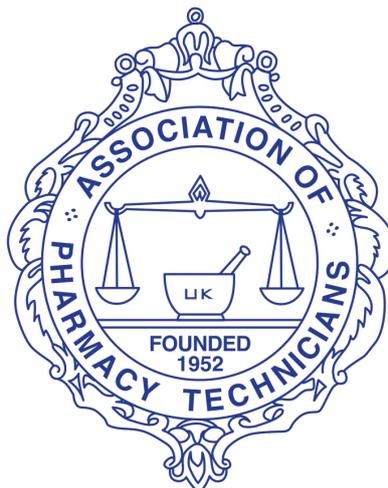
We are dedicated to the profession, our members and the Association

## Professional

We use knowledge, skills and judgement to deliver the highest standard of person-centred care

## Visionary

We take a proactive approach to lead and maximise the potential of the pharmacy technician profession for the future



## Collaborative

We work together and seek involvement for best outcomes

## Integrity

We behave honestly, openly, reliably and always take responsibility

## Inclusive

We will be inclusive and encourage people to bring their whole selves to APTUK

# Member benefits

## Information and resources



Benefit from regular email updates, events and webinars to inform, share ideas, educate and unite our members

## Peer and professional networking



Meet other pharmacy technicians at your local APTUK branch and /or the annual APTUK conference

## The Pharmacy Technician Journal



Keeping members informed on National and strategic issues impacting the profession

## Career development



Access APTUK National Competency and Practice Frameworks and learning modules on a whole range of topics to keep your professional skills and behaviours up to date. Opportunity to develop leadership skills through getting involved with the committee, specialist projects or branch activities - all good recruitable skills.

## Shaping our future



Share your views and contribute your expertise and experience to National healthcare and pharmacy consultations and campaigns

## Kudos and recognition



Use the post-nominal 'MAPharmT' to demonstrate your professional commitment



# THE ASSOCIATION OF PHARMACY TECHNICIANS UK

## Who we are and what we do

APTUK is the professional leadership body for pharmacy technicians in the UK.

We lead, advocate and represent the pharmacy technician profession for the benefit of patients, the public and our members.

We are a network of like-minded professionals, helping to shape the future for pharmacy technicians. We provide advice, information and support to our members, championing the pharmacy technician profession and enhancing education and scope of practice.

To achieve our mission and goals, APTUK works closely with the General Pharmaceutical Council; and collaboratively with the other pharmacy organisations to deliver professional excellence.

We are committed to representing the value of registration for pharmacy technicians practising in Northern Ireland by working with the Pharmaceutical Society Northern Ireland.

Member enquiries: [membership@aptuk.org](mailto:membership@aptuk.org)

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Association of Pharmacy Technicians

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