Pharmacy Services

Consultation Framework on the Modern Apprenticeship (at SCQF level 6) & Technical Apprenticeship (at SCQF level 8)

**Review of Pharmacy Services Qualifications and Frameworks**

**Introduction**

Skills for Health (SfH) is working closely with the Pharmacy Services sector in Scotland, Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA Accreditation and SQA Awarding Body) and Skills Development Scotland (SDS) to ensure availability of an appropriate and meaningful range of qualifications and Apprenticeship Frameworks in Scotland.

We recently reviewed the content and structure of the Scottish Vocational Qualification (SVQ) in Pharmacy Services at SCQF level 6 for Pharmacy Support Staff[[1]](#footnote-1) and we are now reviewing the:

* Modern Apprenticeship (MA) in Pharmacy Services at SCQF 6 for Pharmacy Support Staff
* Technical Apprenticeship (TA) in Pharmacy Services at SCQF 8 for Pharmacy Technicians[[2]](#footnote-2)

We are now seeking the views (in confidence) on the structure and content of the Apprenticeships from those working in the sector and those delivering the qualification/training.

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| **What we would like you to do**  The MA and TA documents are fairly lengthy so we have summarised the key questions and suggested responses in the provided templates and we are asking you to agree with those suggestions or provide an alternative suggestion or improvement. Could you please:   1. Provide us with information about you 2. Give us your feedback, using the templates provided, on the:  * Modern Apprenticeship Framework at SCQF level 6 for Pharmacy Support Staff * Technical Apprenticeship Framework at SCQF level 8 for Pharmacy Technicians  1. Send your response (in WORD) to [**alan.mcdonald7@ntlworld.com**](mailto:alan.mcdonald7@ntlworld.com)by **noon on Tuesday 22 December** |

**What happens next?**

* We will collate/analyse/incorporate your feedback into the documentation as appropriate
* We will post the revised documentation on our digital platforms and invite further comment
* We will amend/finalise all documentation
* The new Frameworks will be available for implementation in early 2021

**Timescales**

Please send your feedback to Alan McDonald by **noon on** **Tuesday 22 December.**

Note: This information will be retained by Skills for Health only for the duration of this project (i.e. until March 2021) when it will be deleted.

**Consultation Framework: Pharmacy Services**

**About You**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** |  | |
| **Job title/role** |  | |
| **Email** |  | |
| **Telephone** |  | |
| **Organisation name** |  | |
| **Which of the titles shown (right) best describes your organisation?**  **Please mark with an X all of those which apply.** | **Employer** |  |
| **Training provider** |  |
| **Awarding Organisation** |  |
| **College/University** |  |
| **Consultant** |  |
| **Member of the public** |  |
| **Other (please specify e.g. professional body)** |  |
| **To which (Pharmacy) working environment(s) does your response apply?**  **Please mark with an X all of those which apply.** | **Community** |  |
| **Hospital** |  |
| **Primary Care** |  |

**NOTE**

* In both of the following templates we are asking you to tell us if you agree with our suggestions (please mark your AGREEMENT with an X or leave blank if you do not agree). If you think our suggestion needs to be changed or can be improved then please let us have your comment/suggestion.
* **Thank you** for participating in this consultation. Your knowledge and experience in this area will be invaluable in ensuring we have fit for purpose Frameworks.

**Review of Modern Apprenticeship in Pharmacy Services at SCQF level 6 for Pharmacy Support Staff**

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| **Section** | **Detail** | **Our Suggestion** | **Agree** | **Your Comment/suggestion** | | | | | |
| **Mandatory Outcome** | *The MA must contain a* ***SVQ or a CBQ****. Both are based on the NOS.* | New SVQ in Pharmacy Services at SCQF level 6 (see **Annex 1**). |  |  | | | | | |
| **Core Skills** | *Each apprentice must achieve Work Place Core Skills* | All at level 5 (see **Annex 2**). Is that appropriate? |  |  | | | | | |
| **Mandatory Enhancement** | *Other awards, qualifications or training programmes which are relevant and* ***essential.*** | None. |  |  | | | | | |
| **Optional Outcomes** | *Other awards, qualifications or training programmes which are relevant and* ***desirable.*** | None. |  |  | | | | | |
| **Work-based Training** | Delivery and assessment method | During the course of their day-to-day work. |  |  | | | | | |
| Skills required by training providers delivering the training | As required by Awarding Body and Assessment Strategy. |  |  | | | | | |
| Delivery of underpinning knowledge (if no formal off-the job requirement) | Through supervised workplace performance and regular internal meetings. |  |  | | | | | |
| **Off-the-job Training** | Details of off-the-job training | Not required. |  |  | | | | | |
| **Duration of MA** | *Estimate the* ***length of time*** *it takes to achieve and demonstrate competence at this level.* | 12-36 months (in accordance with GPhC requirements). |  |  | | | | | |
| **Additional Feedback** | *Please add any* ***comments not accommodated elsewhere*** | |  | | | | | | |
| **Use** | Will your organisation use the MA developed by this project? | | Yes | |  | No |  | Maybe |  |

**Review of Technical Apprenticeship in Pharmacy Services at SCQF level 8 for Pharmacy Technicians**

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| **Section** | **Detail** | **Our Suggestion** | **Agree** | **Your Comment/suggestion** | | | | | |
| **Mandatory Outcome\*** | *The MA must contain a* ***SVQ or a CBQ****. Both are based on the NOS.* | SVQ in Pharmacy Services at SCQF level 8 (GR2C 24). See https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/94058.html |  |  | | | | | |
| **Mandatory Enhancement\*** | *Other awards, qualifications or training programmes which are relevant and* ***essential.*** | Professional Development Award (PDA) in Pharmacy Services at SCQF level 7 (GR0N 47). See https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/92617.html |  |  | | | | | |
| **Optional Outcomes** | *Other awards, qualifications or training programmes which are relevant and* ***desirable.*** | None. |  |  | | | | | |
| **Work-based Training** | Delivery and assessment method | During the course of their day-to-day work. |  |  | | | | | |
| Delivery of underpinning knowledge (if no formal off-the job requirement) | Through supervised workplace performance and regular internal meetings. |  |  | | | | | |
| **Off-the-job Training** | Details of off-the-job training | The PDA is delivered and assessed in approved centres over a period of 24 months and through supervised workplace performance and regular internal meetings. |  |  | | | | | |
| Delivery and assessment method | The attendance pattern is flexible and will be locally decided. |  |  | | | | | |
| Exemptions | None. |  |  | | | | | |
| **Duration of TA** | *Estimate the* ***length of time*** *it takes to achieve and demonstrate competence at this level.* | No less than 2 years (GPhC requirement) and no more than 3 years to complete. |  |  | | | | | |
| **Additional Feedback** | *Please add any* ***comments not accommodated elsewhere*** | |  | | | | | | |
| **Use** | Will your organisation use the TA developed by this project? | | Yes | |  | No |  | Maybe |  |

\*The SVQ and the PDA together form a **Diploma at SCQF level 8** (approved by SQA and GPhC) and must be achieved to satisfy the Apprenticeship Framework requirements.

**Annex 1 – SVQ in Pharmacy Services at SCQF level 6**

**The suggested qualification structure is 4 Mandatory Units (M) plus any 3 Optional Units (O).**

Note that this structure satisfies Pharmacy Support Staff working in Community, Hospitals and Primary Care environments.

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| **Ref** | **Area of Competence** | **M** | **O** |
| PHARM01 | Assist with the provision of a pharmacy service | X |  |
| PROHSS1 | Make sure your own actions reduce risks to health and safety | X |  |
| SCDHSC 241 | Contribute to the effectiveness of teams | X |  |
| SCDHSC0023 | Develop your own knowledge and practice | X |  |
| PHARM07 | Receive prescriptions |  | X |
| PHARM09 | Assemble prescribed items |  | X |
| PHARM12 | Order pharmaceutical stock |  | X |
| PHARM13 | Receive pharmaceutical stock |  | X |
| PHARM14 | Maintain pharmaceutical stock |  | X |
| PHARM15 | Supply pharmaceutical stock |  | X |
| PHARM21 | Prepare documentation and materials for the production of aseptic products |  | X |
| PHARM32 | Assist in the issuing of prescribed items |  | X |
| PHARM04 | Provide advice on non-prescribed medicines and products |  | X |
| PHARM19 | Prepare aseptic products |  | X |
| PHARM24 | Provide an effective pharmacy collection and delivery service |  | X |
| CFACSA5 | Promote additional services or products to customers |  | X |
| SFJCPS8.12 | Search databases and sources of information |  | X |
| SFHHT2 | Communicate with individuals about promoting their health and wellbeing |  | X |
| PHARM20 | Prepare documentation and materials for the manufacture and assembly of medicinal products |  | X |
| PHARM17 | Manufacture and assemble medicinal products |  | X |
| GEN21 | Interact with individuals using telecommunications |  | X |
| GEN39 | Contribute to effective multidisciplinary team working |  | X |
| GEN98 | Promote effective communication in a healthcare environment |  | X |

**Annex 2 – Core Skills**

The Core Skills are:

* Communication
* Working With Others
* Problem Solving
* Information and Communication Technology
* Numeracy

1. See GPhC training requirements for pharmacy support staff at: <https://www.pharmacyregulation.org/sites/default/files/document/gphcrequirements-for-the-education-and-training-of-pharmacy-support-staff-effective-october-2020.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. A Modern Apprenticeship contain an SVQ (or similar) at SCQF level 6/7 and a Technical Apprenticeship contains an SVQ (or similar) at SCQF level 8. The level 8 qualification aligns with the registration requirements of the GPhC. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)