

The Board discussed the development of the implementation of the ***Innovation, Health and Wealth Report*** published in December 2011. Sir Ian Carruthers has now set up an Implementation Board, (including Simon Jose, GSK and Stephen Whitehead, ABPI), which will be run as a business board without civil servants, working to very clear targets. Task and finish groups will tackle specific tasks arising from the *IHW Report*, managed by a Programme Management Office. Industry continues to support the project by seconding in expertise, supporting the roll out of communications by the IB and ensuring ABPI members are up to date with progress and engagement at local level.

The Board moved on to discuss the political environment in which the negotiations for the **next pricing scheme** will take place. Following previous negotiation timetables it is anticipated that the DH will shortly make known the parameters it believes are appropriate for the negotiations. The ABPI's consultation with industry is on-going and will inform industry's position. In the meantime the Board agreed to circulate very broad principles for industry to use in current discussions with stakeholders, as appropriate, in order to avert any early narrowing of potential options when it comes to the negotiation. Following the consultation, the industry position will be shaped in detail. (The next all-industry meeting, to feedback on the consultation exercise, takes place on 23 April.)

CEO Stephen Whitehead presented the Board with **strategic priorities for 2012**. These included further concentration on meeting the needs of members of companies of all sizes involved in all aspects of innovation across the UK and developing policy positions and advocacy strategies to achieve member objectives. The ABPI's position as the government-recognised body to negotiate the new pricing scheme is paramount and there will also be renewed efforts to increase access and uptake across the UK. More work will be undertaken to influence all stakeholders to recognise the value of research and development.

Finally the Board agreed to continue to lead collaborative work with other parties in the **supply chain** in order to provide a long term solution to the issues arising from the parallel export of some medicines. Member representatives and the ABPI have given evidence to the All Party Group on Pharmacy and called a second meeting of the Pharmacy Advisory Group.

Best wishes
Simon Jose