

Memorandum for Executive Council

SUBJECT Medical, Dentistry and Pharmacy (Amendment) Regulations, 2019

Memorandum by: Chairman of the Public Health Committee

ADVICE SOUGHT 1. **Executive Council is asked to consider and advise whether the Medical, Dentistry and Pharmacy (Amendment) Regulations, 2019 (Annex A) should be approved and brought into force on the date of publication.**

BACKGROUND & CONSIDERATIONS 2. The St Helena Health Service is heavily reliant on expatriate practitioner's particularly medical officers, pharmacists, dentists and various nurse cadres.

3. The Ordinance for the registration of health practitioners on the Island viz medical doctors, pharmacists, dental nurses, and dentists has been reviewed recently to ensure that practitioners hired to work on St Helena are duly qualified for such roles. The review is also to ensure that practitioners can be recruited from far and wide once they have been certified as qualified. The amended regulations herein support the amended Ordinance provisions.

4. The Public Health Committee has reviewed the current Medical, Dentistry and Pharmacy Ordinances and the supporting regulations have been produced with support from the AG's Chambers and the Health Directorate. The amendment to the regulations is as detailed in the attached appendix.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS 5. There are no new expected financial impact beyond the current indemnity coverage arrangements for registered practitioners. The potential liability and risk from registering unsuitably qualified practitioners will be mitigated by the proposed arrangement because of the qualifications checks prior to appointment.

ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS 6. The economic implications are minimal and potentially positive as this aligns with increased capability to deliver optimal healthcare on the Island.

CONSISTENCY WITH 7. N/A

**INVESTMENT
POLICY
PRINCIPLES**

**PUBLIC / SOCIAL
IMPACT**

8. Full operational implementation is expected to improve patient experience, improve patient outcomes and reduce risk.

**ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT**

9. Minimal or negligible

**PREVIOUS
CONSULTATION /
COMMITTEE
INPUT**

10. The proposed amendments to the Regulations have been endorsed by the Public Health Committee.

**PUBLIC
REACTION**

11. Expected to be positive. The public will be reassured that the health practitioners on St Helena are qualified for their roles and that optimal healthcare is being provided on the Island.

PUBLICITY

12. The decision should be covered in the ExCo Report and associated broadcast.

**SUPPORT TO
STRATEGIC
OBJECTIVES**

13. This paper supports Strategic Goal 5 – Altogether Healthier; and, Strategic Objective 5.1 – Improve the health of the community.

**LINK TO
SUSTAINABLE
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**

14. Not Applicable

**OPEN /CLOSED
AGENDA ITEM**
Corporate Support
Corporate Services

15. Open Agenda

DT

22nd May 2019

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