



PSNC WELCOMES ANDREW LANSLEY'S FOCUS ON PUBLIC HEALTH

08 July 2010 – Responding to Andrew Lansley's speech to the UK Faculty of Public Health's annual conference yesterday, PSNC Chief Executive Sue Sharpe said:

"We applaud the Secretary of State's focus on tackling the tremendous public health challenges Britain faces. Pharmacy has consistently demonstrated its ability to provide high quality public health services; from NHS Health Checks to stop-smoking services to sexual health screening. Pharmacies can provide these services at the heart of the communities where people live and work, and can do so far more cost effectively than most other providers.

"To fully capitalise on this potential, pharmacy-provided public health services should be rolled out in a coordinated way across the country. We must move beyond local pilot programmes and ensure that all communities across Britain benefit from the high quality services their pharmacies can offer.

"We are confident that the Government recognises pharmacy's capacity to help address Britain's public health problems. The Conservatives' Green Paper on Public Health, published before the election, pledged that once in Government the party would look to "develop pharmacist involvement in the area of preventive care" and that measures to achieve this would be "integrated into the pharmacy contract". PSNC is cheered by this commitment, and we look forward to working with the Government to harness pharmacy's full potential in this area."

~Ends~

Notes to Editor

1. Further information on Andrew Lansley's speech to the UK Faculty of Public Health can be found here: http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/MediaCentre/Pressreleases/DH_117228
2. PSNC (The Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee) is the body that represents community pharmacies in England and Wales on NHS matters.

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