



**Royal
Pharmaceutical
Society**
of Great Britain

1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN

Tel: 020 7572 2335

Fax: 020 7572 2503

News release

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FIRST PAST THE POST VOTING RETURNS FOR 2003 COUNCIL ELECTION

The 2003 elections to the Council of Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain will see the reintroduction of the “first past the post” voting system.

At its meeting in December 2002, the Society's Council agreed to return to the first past the post system in the election of Members of the Council and requested an amendment to the byelaws to allow this to happen. The key factors that Council considered in returning to a system which was last used in 1975 were that “first past the post” is considered to be a transparent system of voting that is easily understood by the electorate.

Proposed alterations to the byelaws were advertised in *The Pharmaceutical Journal* of December 7, 2002. No comments were received from the membership in the 60 days following the publication of the notice. The order approving amendments to section XII of the Society's byelaws from the Privy Council has been received.

The amendments are as follows:

In Section XII:

(a) for paragraph 7 *substitute*:

‘In the election of members of Council each member shall have seven votes. The seven candidates with the highest number of votes shall be elected. In the election of Auditors each members shall have five votes. The five candidates with the highest number of votes shall be elected’ and

(b) in paragraph 9 *delete* ‘at each stage of the count’.

/more follows

There will also be a change introduced by the Electoral Reform Services, which will be managing the ballot process. Ballot papers will be numbered so that the envelopes need no longer be signed by the voter.

For further information about the changes to the 2003 election, contact Ms Ro Martin, Head of Central Administration, on 020 7572 2204 or by email on rmartin@rpsgb.org.uk.

Ends

**For further information please contact Natalie Sticklen or Zoë Davies in the
Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain's public relations unit
020 7572 2335/6**