



February 2019

## One profession: Pharmacists standing up for Pharmacists

Dear professional colleague,

With our professional support, pharmacists at Boots have been working to secure independent trade union recognition for more than eight years. Last year, over 2,800 pharmacists secured a ballot to reach this point, but there is one final step to take. The responsibility for achieving the outcome that pharmacists want now rests with those of you who are Boots employees. Only you can vote in the ballot and you need to complete and return your ballot papers as soon as you receive them.

You should already have received several publications from us to your home address explaining the benefits of trade union recognition. If you have any remaining questions, we would be delighted to hear from you.

You can visit our website: [www.pdaurecognition.co.uk](http://www.pdaurecognition.co.uk); follow or contact us on your choice of social media platform (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or LinkedIn) or email us [enquiries@the-pda.org](mailto:enquiries@the-pda.org)

**Please don't leave it to others to make that difference. Your vote is essential because if less than 40% of eligible votes are returned in favour of "YES" then the process will fail and nothing will change. Pharmacists at Boots will be left with no trade union recognition and you will lose the opportunity to secure an independent voice at work.**

By voting you are also helping to secure a strong professional voice. Twenty years ago individual pharmacists did not have an organisation like PDA Union representing them, but one was increasingly needed. Several of us established the PDA and in 2008 we created the PDA Union as the only independent trade union in the UK exclusively for pharmacists. Just as Doctors already had the BMA and Nurses have the RCN, pharmacists now have the PDA Union. Together PDA and PDAU provide a unique combination of indemnity cover, trade union and defence association benefits for pharmacists like you.

Today our membership has grown to more than 28,000, making us the largest pharmacists' membership organisation and one of the 30 largest trade unions in the UK. Our central team has grown and our team includes expert lawyers, pharmacists and other professionals who provide the help pharmacists need.

We are governed by a democratically elected committee of pharmacists and supported by regional committees of more volunteer pharmacists. Ballot papers will be posted to your home address on 18 February 2019 and must be received by Kanto Elect no later than noon on 11 March 2019. So please don't delay, complete your ballot paper with a "YES" vote and return it as soon as you receive it.

Yours sincerely



John Murphy  
General Secretary



Alima Batchelor  
Head of Policy



Diane Leicester-Hallam  
Director of member  
Services



Mark Pitt  
Assistant General  
Secretary



Paul Day  
National Officer



Mark Koziol  
Assistant General  
Secretary



Claire Ward,  
Director of Public  
Affairs

If you think that you are eligible to vote and have not received a ballot paper by 22 February 2019, please contact the CAC Case Manager, Linda Lehan, by email at [llehan@cac.gov.uk](mailto:llehan@cac.gov.uk) giving your full name and address. If you have recently changed your address and you have not informed your employer, you should do so as soon as possible to ensure you receive your ballot paper on time.