

Collaboration

In establishing its systems and processes, SMC has worked collaboratively in building positive relationships with the following organisations:

ABPI: Representatives of ABPI have been involved with SMC and its processes from an early stage. SMC and ABPI have fostered a strong relationship and ABPI continues to offer unfailing commitment to the process.

NHS Boards and ADTCs: Preparatory work was done by SMC Chairman, Professor David Lawson, in establishing links with NHS Boards and ADTCs in order to gain support for the establishment of a single assessment process for new drugs. Work remains ongoing in determining and refining the exact needs of NHS Boards and ADTCs.

NHS Quality Improvement Scotland: SMC was established with a resource allocation from the Scottish Office. It is now part of NHS Quality Improvement Scotland. SMC looks forward to continued support and positive relations with NHS Quality Improvement Scotland.

Scottish Executive Health Department: The Department was instrumental in establishing SMC and continues to monitor its progress.

Industry User Group: SMC has established an Industry User Group to provide a forum where nominated representatives from industry can meet with members of SMC and NDC on a regular basis.

Patient Involvement Group: SMC recognises that the perspective of the patient is valuable in its decision making process. A Working Group of SMC is liaising with patient representative and voluntary groups to establish how they can play a greater part in this process.

Expert Involvement

SMC recognises that not all speciality areas are represented on New Drugs Committee or Scottish Medicines Consortium. It has been agreed to establish a nominated panel of experts from consultants, senior specialist pharmacists and other relevant experts within NHSScotland. Work will continue in 2003 to establish and formulate such a panel.