

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST: APPOINTMENT TO THE DRUG ADVISORY COUNCIL

In line with Section 37 of the Drug (Prevention and Misuse) Act, expressions of interest are invited from suitably qualified individuals for appointment to the Drug Advisory Council (DAC) – a statutory body with public duties - in relation to regulating and monitoring drugs and controlled substances. The Drug Advisory Council will have an important role in supporting the formulation and implementation of national policies and regulatory responses to drug related issues. It will comprise of at least five individuals.

Duties and responsibilities

The Drugs Advisory Council will be tasked with:

- Developing the evidence base of subject being considered and formulating advice and recommendations and developing strategies for restricting the availability of drugs or supervising the arrangements for their supply;
- Examining and challenging, if necessary, the policy assumptions on which advice is formulated
- Formulating and developing drug prevention and rehabilitation policies and programmes;
- Ensuring that the DAC has the opportunity to consider the available evidence on a given issue, contrary views, and, where appropriate the concerns and values of stakeholders before a decision is taken;
- Advising on drug supply control measures and law reform relating to the misuse of drugs;
- Promoting co-operation between the various professional and community services which in the opinion of the Council have a part to play in dealing with social problems connected with the misuse of drugs;
- Educating the public (and in particular the young) in the dangers of misusing such drugs, and for giving publicity to those dangers;
- Promoting research into, or otherwise obtaining information about, any matter which in the opinion of the Council is of relevance for the purpose of preventing the misuse of such drugs or dealing with any social problem connected with their misuse.
- Advising on appropriate facilities and services for the treatment, rehabilitation and after-care for individuals with substance control issues; and
- Considering and advising on any matter relating to drug dependence or the misuse of drugs that may be referred to the DCA.

Key skills

We are looking for dynamic and highly motivated individuals with professional expertise across the following areas:

- Social Problems connected with the misuse of drugs;
- Practice of Medicine, including Clinical GP / Clinical Psychologist / Hospital consultant, with experience of treating substance control issues;
- Practice of Pharmacy, with expertise in the regulatory frameworks for substance control;
- Forensic Chemist;
- Practice of Dentistry;
- Practice of Law;
- Offender Management; or
- Policing with experience in the prevention and enforcement of drug related offences.

Members of the DAC will be appointed as individuals to fulfil the role of the Council and have a duty to act in the public interest. Members are not appointed as representatives of their particular profession, employer or interest group.

Person Specification

To deliver in the role, you will need to be able to demonstrate:

- An understanding of the issues related to substance control and misuse, with an awareness of the different perspectives on the issues, including that of the views of the scientific community and the public.
- The ability to bring from your respective areas of expertise, authority, knowledge, and breadth to a complex and multi-faceted issue of great public interest and importance;
- Strong interpersonal skills, including the ability to work collaboratively with committee members and stakeholders and to actively and constructively contribute to discussions, negotiating between conflicting opinions and values and generating options to reach consensus;
- The ability to think logically and objectively to critically analyse, synthesise and evaluate evidence and information from diverse sources and identify key issues and make effective impartial and balanced decisions;
- The ability to consider and systematically approach complex data;
- The confidence to deal with difficult situations sensitively, and to take and be accountable for decisions;
- Evidence of working successfully in a professional, community or voluntary capacity on committees or other decision-making groups, and reaching impactful, timely and reasoned conclusions.

Desirable Experience:

- Professional experience within the Caribbean region.

DAC members will be expected to:

- attend and contribute to meetings, and additional sub-committee or working group meetings, arranged as necessary; and
- act corporately with other DAC members to ensure that it fulfils its role and remit by providing impartial, independent, balanced, evidence-based advice on issues relating to substance control.

Conflict of interests

The purpose of these provisions is to avoid any danger of the post holder being influenced, or appearing to be influenced, by their private interests in the exercise of their public duties.

Public appointments require the highest standards of propriety, involving impartiality, integrity and objectivity, in relation to the stewardship of public funds and the oversight and management of all related activities. This means that any private, voluntary, charitable, or political interest which might be material and relevant to the work of the body concerned should be declared. It is

important, therefore, that you consider your circumstances when applying for a public appointment and identify any potential conflicts of interest, whether real or perceived.

Duration

You will be appointed for an initial term of three years.

Remuneration

A stipend will be provided.

Application

If you believe you have the skills and experience required and would like to be considered as an appointee to the DAC, please provide a:

- **comprehensive CV** setting out your career history and including details of any professional qualifications; and
- **supporting statement cover letter** (no more than two pages) providing evidence of the strength and depth of your ability to meet the criteria for the role. Please provide specific examples to demonstrate how you meet each of the experience, qualities and skill areas identified in the person specification.

Expressions of interest with the requested supporting documentation should be submitted by email to governorsoffice@gov.ai by no later than **12pm on Friday 31 March 2023**.
