Our strategic plan:
2022 - 2024
The British Pharmacological Society is a membership charity with a mission to promote and advance all disciplines of pharmacology in the discovery, development and use of medicines. We are an inclusive, nurturing, and professional global community with more than 4,000 members from more than 60 countries. Our approach is bold – the discipline of pharmacology is evolving, and it is our responsibility to define, redefine, and advance the discipline.

Pharmacology is at the forefront of our fight to help ensure everyone can live healthy lives for longer. We use the term pharmacology to encompass all areas of the science of drugs and medicine and we recognise that pharmacologists work across multi-disciplinary boundaries. Pharmacology makes a unique contribution to research to develop new drugs, and to improving the use of existing drugs for better patient outcomes.

Our vision
A world in which pharmacology and therapeutics drive and support progress in science, medicine and healthcare, for the benefit of all in Society.

Our purpose
To promote and advance all disciplines of pharmacology in the discovery, development and use of medicines.
In 2021, we celebrated 90 years since the Society’s foundation. This milestone anniversary was a chance for us to reflect on our history, consider our current position, and look forward to our future – keeping our members and the wider pharmacology community at the heart of everything we offer. This strategy is a flexible framework to help us to recover from the ongoing pandemic, building a stronger, more relevant Society for our community.

A focus area for our new strategy is to improve representation and support for all pharmacologists, ensuring that our offerings are meeting the requirements of everyone across our discipline, whether they work in academia, healthcare, CROs, regulatory agencies or in the pharmaceutical and biotech sectors.

We will continue to embed the principles of equity, diversity and inclusion into the heart of everything we do and evolve our support as needed. Part of this is listening to, and prioritising, the needs of our members and in particular, early career pharmacologists.

With the pandemic at the forefront of our work and lives as we prepare this strategy, the experiences and lessons learned during it have informed our thinking.

We are committed to bringing our community back together and creating opportunities for collaboration and debate. We will also publish and share new research findings that will ultimately make a positive impact on human and animal health.

The pandemic has also brought the importance of pharmacology into the spotlight and many of our members actively contributed to the remarkable achievements that have had such a positive impact on saving lives and reducing the effects of COVID-19. We plan to capitalise on this interest and engagement in the coming years, raising awareness of the importance of pharmacology to human health to a wider audience.

In 2023, we will host the 19th World Congress of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology (WCP2023) with the International Union of Pharmacology (IUPHAR) – an occasion we hope will exemplify the values of our organisation, bringing together the global community of pharmacologists in a welcoming and inclusive space to share outstanding science.

We would love to hear what you think about our approach and look forward to working with you to deliver this new strategy.
Our strategic plan: 2022 – 2024

Our new values build on the guiding principles set out in our last strategy and make it clear how the Society will deliver on our vision and purpose.

Our values will be evident in what we do, how we do it, and how we work together. Through them we will INCLUDE all stakeholders, NURTURE the next generation of pharmacologists, and take a PROFESSIONAL approach to our work whilst being BOLD and forward thinking.

Our values

INCLUSIVE: We use our resources to help create a socially just world. We welcome and support pharmacologists at all stages of their careers and create a home for them to connect and collaborate with our team and each other.

NURTURING: We provide a supportive environment that celebrates achievements, creates opportunities, and provides encouragement when things don’t go to plan.

PROFESSIONAL: We work with integrity, using evidence and the expertise of our members to ensure we are the trusted voice of pharmacology.

BOLD: We are innovative and forward thinking. Pharmacology and therapeutics are evolving, and it is our responsibility to define, redefine and advance these disciplines.

A values-led approach

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We are innovative and forward thinking.
PROGRESSING OUR PHARMACOLOGY PRIORITIES

We will:

Advance the discipline of pharmacology, communicating its beneficial impact on animal and human health.

We will bring pharmacologists together so they can collaborate, debate, publish and ultimately make advances in priority research areas. We will work with our community and stakeholders to use our resources and influence to make progress on the issues that matter to us.

We will do this by:

- Strengthening the foundations of clinical pharmacology through supporting the training, workforce development, and multi-professional partnerships that enable the safe and effective development and use of medicines.
- Leveraging our strengths in the production and delivery of quality content to disseminate cutting edge science to a global audience.
- Curating, and where necessary expanding, content into thematic priorities, which are joined-up across policy, publishing, education, training, and meetings.
- Bringing the pharmacological community together through an innovative programme of commissioned and member-led content, online and in-person.
Our strategic plan: 2022 – 2024

Celebrating and connecting our community

We will:

Foster and celebrate a diverse pharmacological community, flexing our provision to meet the changing needs of our community.

We will be forward looking, anticipating the changing landscape and needs of the pharmacological community, recognising and supporting individuals wherever and whoever they are and at all stages of their careers. Where we identify barriers to inclusion within the Society, we will take action to dismantle them.

We will do this by:

- Harmonising our education, training and engagement projects in collaboration with our community, by aligning them to our thematic priorities and taking account of the needs of those within industry, academia and clinical settings.

- Focusing on removing barriers to inclusion, building equity and accessibility into every entry, progression, and decision point within the Society.

- Embracing digital opportunities so that we can extend our reach, grow membership, and expand our communities of engagement.

- Sharing stories that articulate the breadth and depth of pharmacology, to represent and inspire the next generation of pharmacologists.
Our strategic plan: 2022 – 2024

SUSTAINING OUR SOCIETY

We will:

Secure our future so that we can support the next generation of pharmacologists and continue to champion the importance of the discipline for the benefit of human and animal health.

We will build our financial and structural resilience by embedding sustainable decision frameworks and ethically growing and diversifying funding streams, increasing efficiency, and ensuring robust governance.

We will do this by:

- Building BPS Assessment Ltd into the premier assessment and learning business for prescribing skills by growing national and global sales of our core products and services.
- Developing and adapting our publishing portfolio, taking into account the research environment and community requirements, ensuring we provide a place to publish for all pharmacology researchers.
- Adopting best practice environmental, social and governance policies and practices, and pursuing ethical income opportunities whilst developing clear targets to de-carbonise and reach Net Zero.
THANK YOU

Thank you to our amazing Trustees, members and partners for your wholehearted engagement with our work. We look forward to collaborating with you in the coming years to make our vision for a world in which pharmacology and therapeutics drive and support progress in science, medicine and healthcare for the benefit of society, a reality.

Become a member today

If you are not yet a member, there are lots of great reasons to join us, including:

- Discounted registration for meetings, training and workshops
- Connecting with other members at special networking events and on the online Community platform
- Free access to the British Journal of Pharmacology and British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology
- Study awards, prizes and grants, including financial support to attend scientific meetings
- Opportunities to serve on our many committees

Find out more at www.bps.ac.uk/membership or by emailing membership@bps.ac.uk