

## Press Release



*13th June 2003*

### **NPA RESPONSE TO APPOINTMENT OF NEW SECRETARY OF STATE FOR HEALTH**

Responding to the announcement that Dr John Reid is to be the new Secretary of State for Health, John D'Arcy, Chief Executive of The National Pharmaceutical Association said: "On behalf of the NPA Board of Management and Membership, I want to congratulate and welcome Dr John Reid to his new post. This is a pivotal time for community pharmacy services, and I look forward to meeting with him at the earliest opportunity, so that I can continue to communicate, on behalf of the NPA's 6,000 community pharmacy owners, our views on what the Government's 'balanced package of proposals' for implementing the OFT report should contain. I will be stressing that pharmacists and patients believe that 'local healthcare needs require local solutions' – and that Government needs to take this on board by ensuring that the nation's pharmacists get the recognition they deserve: at the heart of decision making in local primary care.'

**-ends**

#### **Notes to Editors:**

1. For more information, please contact the NPA Press Office, on: 01727-858687, ext 3340 or ext 3227