

## Biography – Helen Gordon

Helen joined the Royal Pharmaceutical Society on 1 July 2010 and has developed its role, work and impact as the newly dedicated professional body for pharmacists in Great Britain. Under Helen's leadership and direction the Society has created a strong patient and member focused organisation which has introduced a professional development and recognition system for pharmacists, acts as a strong advocate for the pharmacy profession as experts in medicines, published professional standards as well as guidance, and has increased its profile and contribution to the health service in the UK and international pharmacy. The organisation has gained recognition for speaking on behalf of the whole pharmacy profession, and is actively working in collaboration with other Royal Colleges and health organisations on initiatives that benefit patients and the public. The Society is also home for the well-known and trusted publisher, Pharmaceutical Press.

Prior to this she held the position of Chief Executive of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, a position she held from 2005. Helen has a career in health care spanning 34 years. Originally training as a nurse at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, she progressed through a number of senior clinical and managerial positions, including the roles of Operations Director /Chief Nurse and then Chief Executive at Hillingdon Hospital, and from 2000-2005 as Chief Executive at Queen Mary's Sidcup NHS Trust.

Helen studied for her Masters Degree in Business Administration at Henley Business School. Being passionate about supporting and developing people, she actively mentors others, and is involved in voluntary work in education which includes chairing the new Alumni Relationship and Development Advisory Board at Henley Business School/University of Reading and previously serving as a Governor at Ravensbourne for nine years. She was awarded an Honorary Fellowship of the Royal College of General Practitioners in November 2013 and an Honorary Doctorate of Science from Reading University in 2016.