

## ***Use of Title “MLSO” in Application Forms and other Material***

The Registration Department has been modifying the application forms to remove all reference to the old Boards and CPSM. With one exception, the reference to the Board has been easy to change to reference to the profession only; for example, reference to “Radiographers Board” has been changed to “radiographers”, “Dietitians Board to “dietitians”, etc. However, this has brought to light a difficulty with what was called the “Medical Laboratory Technicians Board”.

This title of the Board and its respective profession was imposed because the Professions Supplementary to Medicine Act under Section 1(2) specifically used the, now anachronistic, term "medical laboratory technicians".

There is, however, a way forward. Paragraph 16(1) of the second Schedule of the Order covering transitional arrangements in this and all other such matters, states that the Council during the transitional period shall "exercise the functions of the CPSM and the boards under the 1960 Act and subordinate legislation made under that Act with such modifications as necessary".

It is recommended that in this, and similar instances, the Council make a pro-active use of this clause. The title of the profession used in the Act is now wholly out- of-date and no longer reflects the current usage or circumstances of the profession. Since the early 1980's, the old Board, in most instances, referred to itself as the “MLT Board, registering medical laboratory scientific officers”.

On these grounds and based on this well-established precedent, it is recommended that, until a formal title (whatever that may be) has been agreed and protected after the consultation process, the use of “medical laboratory scientific officer” and/or “MLSO” in all documents be agreed by the Council as a "necessary modification".

The Council is therefore asked to approve that the title Medical Laboratory Scientific Officer be used in all correspondence for the time being.