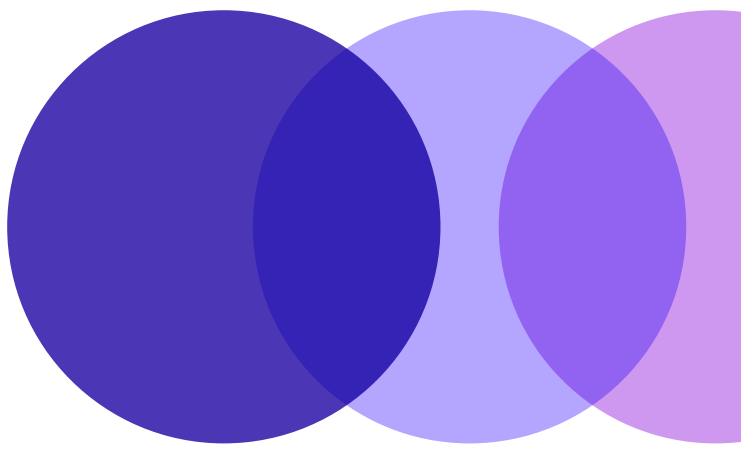


Improving regulation 2025/2026



Our policy and research work: at a glance

Our policy and research work responds to, or anticipates changes and challenges, **using our right-touch approach**. Through our work to improve regulation, we anticipate future challenges, identify safety gaps, and promote collaboration on key issues impacting health and social care.



Policy and research publications



1 Research report



2 Good practice guides



2 Manifestos

Spotlight on:



Tackling & preventing sexual misconduct in health and social care

We continued hosting a series of webinars on preventing sexual misconduct in health and social care. The webinars brought together expert perspectives on law, regulation, prevention and victim experiences. The webinar series has resulted in a new collection of resources, including presentations from the series and a summary of key insights.

AI offers significant opportunities to improve access to and quality of care in health and social care, but it also brings risks that require effective regulatory oversight to protect the public. Our work in this area focuses on understanding these opportunities and risks, convening the right expertise, and supporting a coordinated approach across the regulatory sector.



Artificial Intelligence (AI) and professional regulation



Right-touch regulation

In October, we published a new version of *Right-touch regulation* (RTR). Seeking stakeholder engagement and discussions with experts in the field helped us shape this revised version. While the central ideas remain at its core, we incorporated a number of improvements in the new version. We have also produced additional resources and will continue to update and add to them.

Events and stakeholder engagement



1
Regulatory policy symposium



1
Research conference



1
Joint Seminar with Welsh Government



+
Invitations to speak, presentations and joint events

Invitations to speak included on our *Barriers to complaints* research and *Right-touch regulation* in Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, Scotland, and the USA. We also held UK-wide engagement events across England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales seeking views and input on revising our Standards and our future strategic direction.

Regulatory reform
We provided advice to DHSC on the draft GMC reform legislation. We highlighted the need for a focus on balancing flexibility and public protection.

→ Find out more
professionalstandards.org.uk/improving-regulation