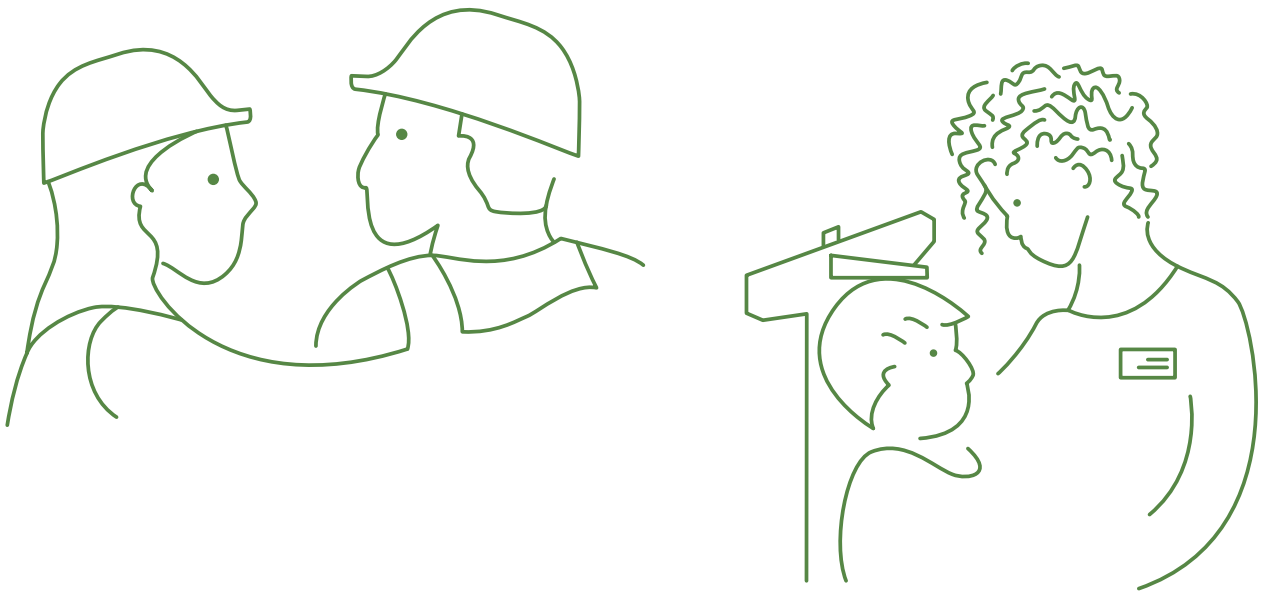


Post-registration consultation document for the public



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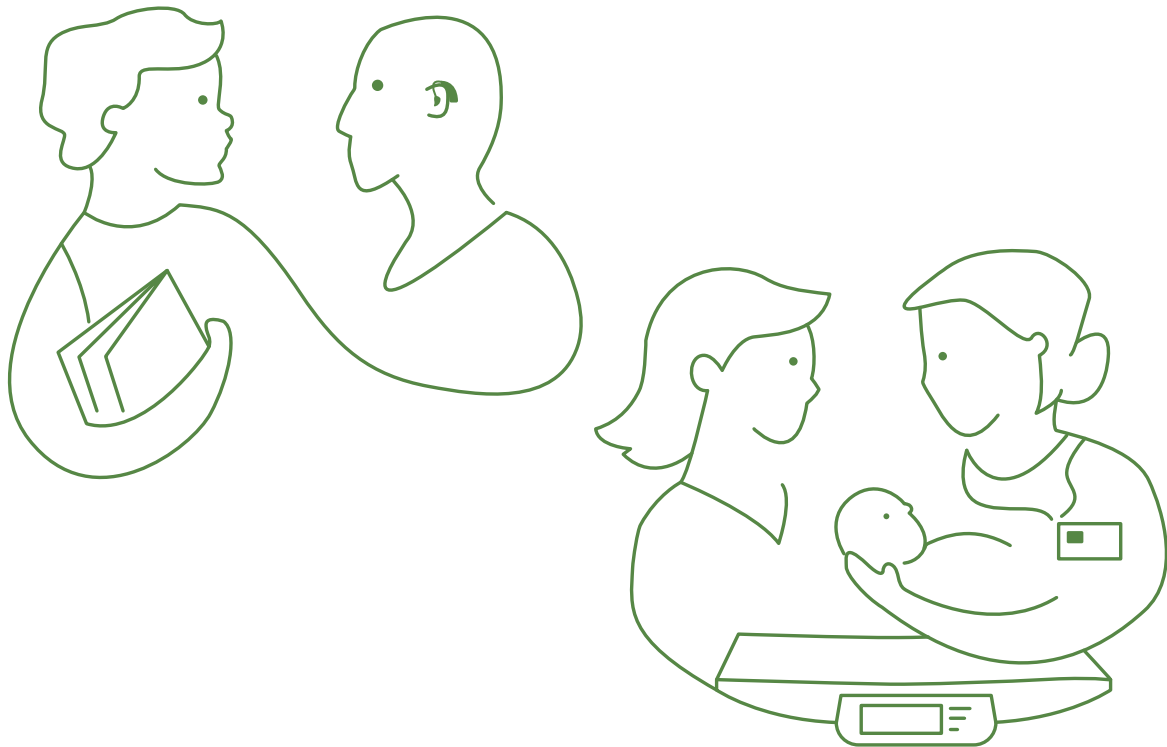
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Who's this for?

This document is for members of the public, anyone accessing public health and/or community health and care services, or their family, friends and carers.

Introduction

This consultation document aims to provide an overview of our post-registration standards review, how the new draft standards were developed in collaboration with people and how you can get involved in the consultation.



What is the NMC's post-registration standards review?

Once a nurse or midwife is registered with us, they can gain further NMC qualifications to specialise in different areas within the community. This includes additional education and training to enable them to work as:

- health visitors
- occupational health nurses
- school nurses
- community children's nurses
- community learning disabilities nurses
- community mental health nurses
- district nurses or
- general practice nurses.

Health and care is evolving and nursing practice is changing and advancing at the same time. We need to update our standards routinely to keep pace with that. This is why we're now reviewing the standards of proficiency (what people need to know and be able to do) for professionals working in these roles. Our new post-registration standards will ensure that everyone can be confident about receiving support and care from these specialist practitioners that is safe, effective and kind.

In addition to the specialist nursing roles listed above, there are now many other nursing roles in the community where additional NMC qualifications could be useful. For example, nurses provide different types of specialised care in people's own homes and other community settings which include hospices, care homes, nursing homes, hostels for the homeless, residential and educational settings, prisons and other health and justice settings. We also want to find out whether you think it would be helpful for the NMC to have an additional specialist qualification that could apply to these types of community nursing roles and other wider public health nursing roles.

We want to make sure that professionals in these roles have the additional knowledge and skills they need to deliver high quality care. And that these skills and knowledge reflect the wider changes in our society and their effects on current and future health and care needs of people.

Our new standards will ensure that people who use health and care services can be confident that they will receive high quality care from their specialist practitioner whether they're at home, in the community, or accessing public health services.

Working with others to co-produce these new draft standards

Throughout this review we wanted to hear from members of the public and our stakeholders. In the second half of 2020 we engaged extensively with over 2,200 people using digital methods due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This included advocacy groups and those representing the views of people using health and care services. We published [two reports](#) on the extent of this engagement and the themes emerging.

We know our new standards will only meet people's changing needs if we hear a diverse range of voices. We have been pleased to hear from so many people from a wide range of backgrounds as we develop our draft standards, and are committed to doing more during the full consultation process.

Approaching this consultation

These draft standards were developed during an unprecedented global pandemic that continues to affect people, communities and populations in the UK and across the world.

It's vital that we get these new standards right, so that people who need care at home or near home, can be confident that these specialist practitioners have the right knowledge and skills to do this safely and well, and that public health support and interventions are targeted effectively. To do that, we need feedback from members of the public and users of services, through the consultation survey that Pye Tait, an independent research organisation, are hosting on our behalf.

Pye Tait will also be undertaking qualitative focus groups and telephone interviews with members of the public and people who are cared for by these specialist practitioners. We believe this approach works best to ensure we meaningfully engage with and obtain views from members of the public and seldom heard groups.

All these findings will feed into finalising the standards.

Next steps and how to respond

This consultation will run for 16 weeks from 8 April until 2 August 2021. To respond to this consultation, please complete the consultation survey.

You can respond via the following link: www.pyetait.com/future-community-nurse-public

If you can't submit your response using the online survey, please contact us at consultations@nmc-uk.org for an alternative format.

You can also use this email address if you have any questions.

After the consultation has closed, we will analyse the responses and use these to inform our next steps in the development process. We will then present our findings to our Council with a recommendation for how to proceed.

Thank you for taking the time to respond to this important consultation.



The role of the Nursing and Midwifery Council

What we do

Our vision is safe, effective and kind nursing and midwifery that improves everyone's health and wellbeing. As the regulator of almost 725,000 nursing and midwifery professionals, we have an important role to play in making this a reality.

Our core role is to regulate. First, we promote high professional standards for nurses and midwives across the UK, and nursing associates in England. Second, we maintain the register of professionals eligible to practise. Third, we investigate concerns about nurses, midwives and nursing associates— something that affects less than one percent of professionals each year.

To regulate well, we support our professions and the public. We create resources and guidance that are useful throughout people's careers, helping them to deliver our standards in practice and address new challenges. We also support people involved in our investigations, and we're increasing our visibility so people feel engaged and empowered to shape our work.

Regulating and supporting our professions allows us to influence health and social care. We share intelligence from our regulatory activities and work with our partners to support workforce planning and sector-wide decision making. We use our voice to speak up for a healthy and inclusive working environment for our professions.

These standards were approved by Council at their meeting on (DATE TBC).