



Health Regulation team
Department of Health and Social Care
Whitehall
London

8 June 2021

Dear DHSC,

Regulating healthcare professionals, protecting the public

I am replying to your consultation on behalf of the UK Public Health Register ([UKPHR](#)).

We welcome the government's consultation on the regulation of health professionals. The UK Public Health Register, as the sole dedicated regulator of public health professionals, also wishes to improve the consistency of regulation in the sector and improve collaboration between regulators. We are working collaboratively with the General Medical Council, General Dental Council and the Nursing and Midwifery Council to this effect.

The UK Public Health Register will continue to regulate the 40 percent of the public health specialist workforce, including Directors of Public Health, who are not registered by the GMC, GDC or NMC. This is so that the whole public health profession can be regulated according to consistent standards. We will also extend our registration scheme into the estimated 10,000 public health professionals at practitioner level who are not registered with another professional regulator and are therefore unregulated. This will help improve the skills and professionalism of future public health leaders.

The UK Public Health Register is committed to best regulatory practice. We will adopt your proposed duty to "promote a transparency and collaborative culture" alongside our existing duties. The policy of the UK Public Health Register is to evolve our approach to registration, education and training, and fitness to practice, in line with other regulators of public health professionals, notably the GMC and GDC. We will continue to do so, including in response to this consultation. This too will improve the consistency of regulation across the single public health profession.

We will continue to work with the Professional Standards Authority (PSA) and other accredited registers to collaborate effectively where appropriate, and to provide benefit to our regulated community as well as to the wider public. We are keen to liaise with the Department of Health and Social Care, and with others, on these important regulatory issues over the months ahead.

Yours faithfully,

Marcial Boo
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