

Open 20 May 2020 Supplementary Pack

MEETING
20 May 2020 09:30

PUBLISHED
15 May 2020

Item 6
NMC/20/36
20 May 2020

Council meeting, 20 May 2020

Covid-19: strategic overview

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External context

- Gradual changes to lockdown provisions:
 - Prospect of prolonged physical distancing
 - Potential for repeated relaxing & reinstating of restrictions
 - Likelihood of different approaches across 4 nations
 - Potential for local / regional approaches
- Strategic issues for the sector:
 - Restoring services & recovery
 - Workforce
 - Service delivery in a physically distanced environment
 - Health and social care integration
 - Differential impact of Covid-19 on BAME and other groups
 - Testing, PPE

Regulate: *temporary registration*

First eligible group – no registration conditions

Those who left the register voluntarily up to three years ago

Excluding those with any fitness to practise (FTP) concerns

Second eligible group – with registration conditions

Overseas nurses and midwives who are ready to sit their OSCE

Only those who have completed all of our overseas registration process

Third eligible group – with registration conditions

Those who left the register voluntarily four to five years ago

Excluding those with any FTP concerns

>13,000
people have
registered

0
removed

[Temporary registration removal guidance](#)

Automatic at end of emergency

If necessary, after concerns are raised

Regulate: *temporary registration*

Temporary registration of students – not pursuing

Less demand now for rapid expansion of temporary workforce	Extended clinical placements enable students to support services and complete their studies – and have been positively received by students and the sector
Deployment has not been at the level we were expecting	

Temporary registration of ‘partial lapsers’ – not pursuing

We received a small number of enquiries	Providing information on full readmission instead
Less demand now for rapid expansion of temporary workforce	Complex to deal effectively with concerns about practice
Potential unintended workforce consequences	Potential for confusion

Temporary prescribing annotations – no current plans to use powers

Assured that it would not be beneficial at this point	Significant risks in implementing the powers with sufficient safeguards while still being useful
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Regulate: *standards*

Actions	Impact
<p>Developed a set of Emergency Standards to facilitate students supporting the workforce whilst being appropriately supervised and supported</p>	<p>Around 29,500 students have moved into extended placements across the UK to support practice</p>
<p>Adapted our Quality Assurance approvals processes to provide more flexibility during this period, including visits being held remotely</p>	<p>Of the 131 scheduled events, 60 approval events are still scheduled to go ahead remotely during this period</p>
<p>Extended the implementation date of the new pre-registration nursing and prescribing standards from September 2020 to September 2021, which aligns with the implementation date for the future midwife standards</p>	<p>71 events have now been deferred by the education institution so they can focus on the current pandemic which includes 37 nursing and prescribing approvals</p>

Regulate: *revalidation and annual retention fee*

Registration

UK registrations continuing as normal online

International applications continuing, but OSCE tests suspended in line with lockdown guidelines

Annual retention fee

Extra six weeks allowed for payment of annual retention fee

Revalidation

Automatic three month extension for people due to revalidate in March, April, May, and June

Three month extensions for people due to revalidate from July available on opt-in basis

Further extension available on request if there is good reason and support from confirmer

Regulate: *fitness to practise*

Four essential services to protect the public

New referrals and initial risk assessments (and risk assessing new information on existing cases)	730 referrals received between 16 March and 14 May 2020, and 215 have been closed
Interim order application and reviews	470 outcomes reached by virtual panel meetings and hearings between 16 March and 14 May 2020
Substantive order reviews	
High Court / Court of Sessions interim order extension applications	22 virtual high court hearings between 31 March (when they re-started) and 14 May 2020

Other hearings

Currently suspended to the end of June	Options beyond June subject to public and stakeholder engagement
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Support

Advice and information about temporary registration and our regulatory approach

Joint statement on [how we will continue to regulate during the pandemic](#)

[Four joint statements](#) on plans for expanding the workforce

Calls, remote meetings, a [blog and resources](#) for employers

Our [Covid-19 hub](#) has been viewed over 1 million times

Targeted emails to people eligible for temporary registration

Home-based contact centre answered 35,256 calls and 9,472 between 20 March and 14 May 2020

Statements on safety issues

[Personal protective equipment](#)

[Advance care planning and do not attempt cardiopulmonary resuscitation](#)

[Disproportionate impact of Covid-19 on people from Black, Asian and minority ethnic \(BAME\) backgrounds](#)

[Government's social care action plan](#) for England and the [ONS statistics on deaths in care homes](#) in England and Wales

Influence

Partners

- Secretary of state & ministers
- Department of Health and Social Care, NHS England, Devolved Administrations
- Chief Nursing Officers
- National midwifery leads
- Royal College of Midwives, Royal College of Nursing, Unison, Unite
- Health Education England, NHS Education Scotland, Health Education & Improvement Wales, Northern Ireland Professional Education Committee
- Other regulators
- Council of Deans & universities
- Employers
- & co...



- Emergency legislation
- Emergency standards
- Co-produced guidance
- Joint / aligned statements
- Shaping approaches

Outcomes

Supporting our colleagues

Enabling home working	
Laptops and softphones rolled out before the lockdown to enable remote working, including for contact centre	Video-conferencing – more than 4,000 meetings with 26,000 attendees in a fortnight
Support for wellbeing	
Regular communication, briefings, and webinars for colleagues	Regular information on managing physical and mental health and wellbeing
Recruitment	
Recruitment for priority roles restarted, following initial pause	Remote induction and on-boarding in place

Next steps

- Taking further steps to **Regulate**, **Support**, and **Influence** as the sector continues to manage the pandemic and starts to restore services
- Re-planning our existing work programme
- Providing evidence to support work to assess and learn from the pandemic

