Westminster Health Forum policy conference:

Next steps for professional healthcare regulation in the UK

Timing: Morning, Monday, 24th November 2025

Taking place online

Draft agenda subject to change

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8.30	Registration

9.00 Chair's opening remarks

Baroness Bennett of Manor Castle

9.05 Modernising the regulatory framework at the GMC, and lessons learned so far

Tim Aldrich, Assistant Director, Regulatory Reform, General Medical Council

Questions and comments from the floor

9.30 Assessing current professional healthcare regulation and supporting healthcare professionals at different phases of regulatory reform

Thomas Reynolds, Director, Policy and Communications, Medical Defence Union

9.40 Preparing for regulatory reform and adapting to the evolving environment in healthcare

Christine Elliott, Chair, Health and Care Professions Council

9.50 Reforming regulatory frameworks - key considerations for assessment protocols, coordination and patient safety

implications for statutory regulators | assessing the impact of delayed reform | key lessons learned from PA and AA oversight | risks and advantages of the new regulatory regime | priorities for flexibility, streamlining and coordination across systems | responsibilities for enforcement and compliance | the future of protected titles | efficiency in the fitness to practice process and supporting safety and welfare | mental health in the NHS workforce | role of professional oversight in organisation culture and patient safety | key considerations for future professional body reviews | legal and financial structures underpinning reform

Lynn Woolsey, Chief Nursing Officer, Royal College of Nursing

John Lucarotti, Partner, Blake Morgan

Dr Zaid Al-Najjar, Medical Director, NHS Practitioner Health

Paul Whiteing, Chief Executive, Action Against Medical Accidents

Senior representative, dentistry

10.15 Questions and comments from the floor

10.40 Examining latest developments on the future scope and regulation of associates

Dr Hilary Williams, Clinical Vice President, Royal College of Physicians; and Chair, Physician Associate Oversight Group Questions and comments from the floor

11.00 Chair's closing remarks

Baroness Bennett of Manor Castle

11.05 Break

11.15 Chair's opening remarks

Senior Parliamentarian

11.20 Priorities for leadership frameworks in supporting safe and responsible practice

Professor Rich Withnall, CEO, Faculty of Medical Leadership and Management

Questions and comments from the floor

11.45 <u>Coordination of leadership and professional regulatory priorities in enabling workforce development, service improvement, and public confidence</u>

regulatory links to NHS workforce development | impact of current processes on healthcare staff | integration of learning into investigations and future practice | role of bolstering leadership in improving NHS performance | accountability mechanisms for non-clinical roles | approaches to reduce unnecessary referrals | safeguards for diverse workforce groups | regulation and education requirements for moving towards a new care model in the 10-Year Health Plan | ensuring transparency in decision-making | key considerations for the NHS workforce plan | use of AI and accountability | key considerations for greater managerial freedom and powers

Kay Keane, Director, Institute of General Practice Management

Jon Restell, Chief Executive, Managers in Partnership

Senior representative, NHS

Senior representative, patient group

Senior representative, education

Questions and comments from the floor

12.30 Next steps for professional healthcare regulatory reform in the UK

Senior representative, policy

Questions and comments from the floor

12.55 Chair's and Westminster Health Forum closing remarks

Senior Parliamentarian

Jessica Lear, Westminster Health Forum

