



Ms Andrea Sutcliffe (UK)

*Celebrating the difference
registration makes*

Celebrate... nurses and midwives, breaking down barriers, leaving no-one behind
5th Commonwealth Nurses and Midwives Conference 6–7 March 2020 London UK



Celebrating the difference regulation makes

**5th Commonwealth
Nurses and Midwives
Conference**

6 March 2020

Andrea Sutcliffe | Chief Executive
and Registrar



NMC Nursing &
Midwifery
Council

NMC – who are we?

- We're the professional regulator of nurses and midwives in the UK, and nursing associates in England
- We hold the largest register of health and care professionals in the world (706,252 as at 30 Sept 2019)
- Our purpose is to promote and uphold the highest professional standards in nursing and midwifery to protect the public and inspire confidence in the professions
- We employ over 900 people at offices in London and Edinburgh



NMC – what do we do?

- We maintain the register of nurses and midwives eligible for registration in the UK
- We set the education requirements for entry onto the register
- We shape the practice of people on our register by developing standards
- Where serious concerns are raised we can investigate and take action against the people on our register if necessary



2019 and 2020 - years of celebration globally and nationally

- 100 years of nursing regulation – the passing of the Nursing Registration Act 1919
- Of course, midwives were regulated first in 1902!
- ‘Always Caring Always Nursing’ campaign
- 200th Anniversary of Florence Nightingale’s birth
- International Year of the Nurse and the Midwife



What do you think of when you think of regulation?

- We conducted some research in 2019
- The NMC – and regulation – inspired some interesting comments:

**“They’re big brother...
watching over you.”**

Midwife, Northern Ireland

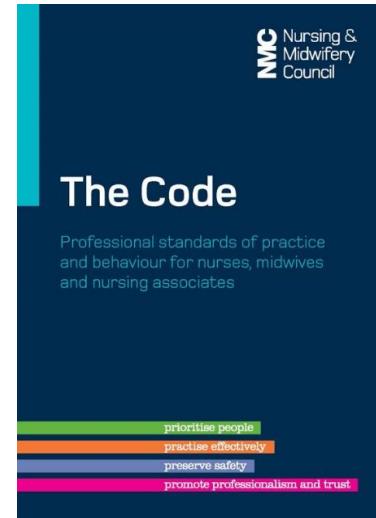
**“It does sort of demonise the
nurses a bit... it makes you
feel you need a body to
protect you from them.”**

Member of the public, Scotland

- ‘So what has regulation ever done for us?’

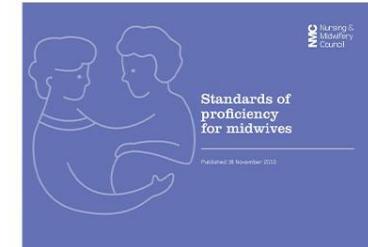
What has regulation ever done for us?

- A source of pride for nurses, midwives and nursing associates
- Reassuring for people receiving care
- Ensuring consistency of education
- Upholding common standards and behaviours
- Ensuring better safer care



Challenges for regulation

- Workforce shortages
- Complex modern care needs
- New career pathways and patterns of working
- Technological advances
- Changing models of care
- Equality, diversity and inclusion



Responding to challenges

- Shaping practice
- Developing relationships with professionals
- Building relationships with the public and people who receive care
- Using research data and intelligence
- Collaborating with others
- New NMC strategy 2020-2025

Shaping the future NMC
2020 ✓ 25



Regulation is a team sport

- Regulation provides a framework to guide what you do
- Individual professional responsibility is important
- Your relationship with people who use services, their carers and families is vital



Be proud of the role you play



Thank you

