New Education QA Framework – approach to monitoring

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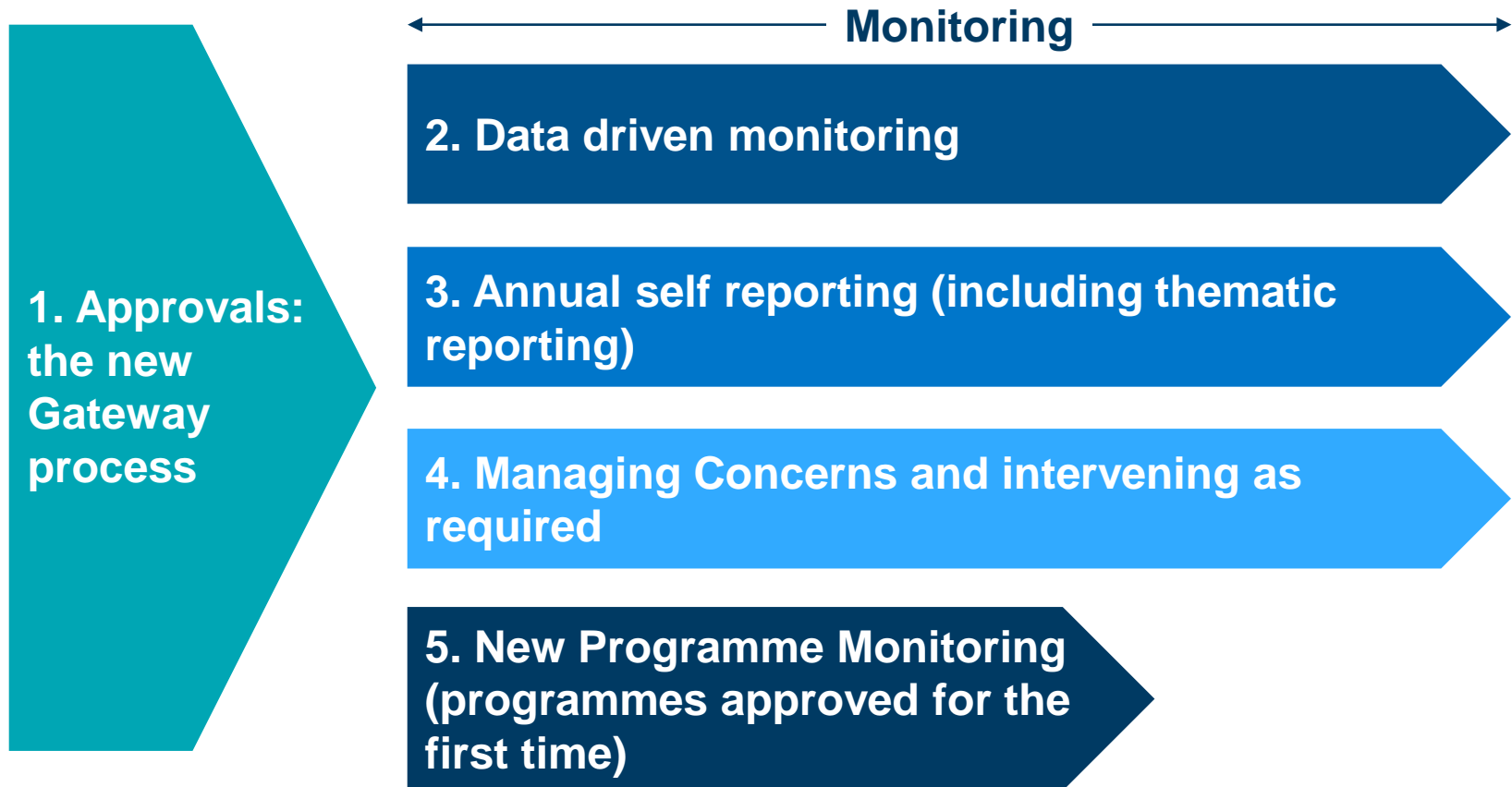
Introduction to the webinar

Agenda

1. Principles of the new QA Framework

2. Data driven monitoring

3. Annual self reporting

4. Managing Concerns

5. New Programme Monitoring/Enhanced Scrutiny

6. Next steps

Principles of the new QA Framework

- Data driven
- Collaborative
- Risk based

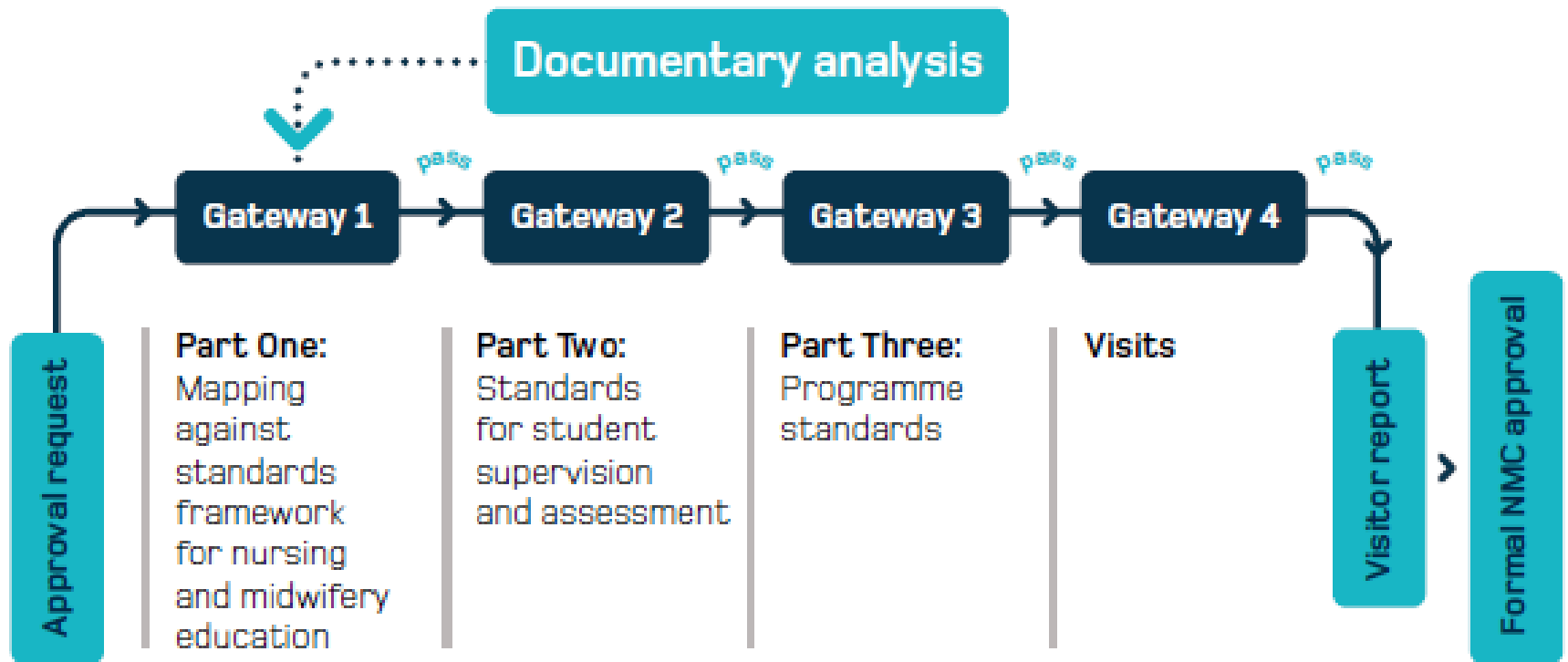- Targeted
- Proportionate
- Transparent

How do we ensure that programmes are delivered in accordance with our standards?

Nursing & Midwifery Council

Monitoring

1. Approvals: the new Gateway process

2. Data driven monitoring

3. Annual self reporting (including thematic reporting)

4. Managing Concerns and intervening as required

5. New Programme Monitoring (programmes approved for the first time)

Expected benefits of the new approach to monitoring

- Have a clearer and richer view of key data and intelligence regarding AEIs, programmes and practice learning partners

- Be less burdensome to AEIs by obtaining data and intelligence from external sources where possible

- Proactively identify risks through the analysis of data and intelligence

- Be able to respond more quickly and intelligently when concerns arise

- Develop and maintain a greater understanding of the overall population of AEIs, programmes and placements, and to see trends in the data

- Make better use of information and data that is already available

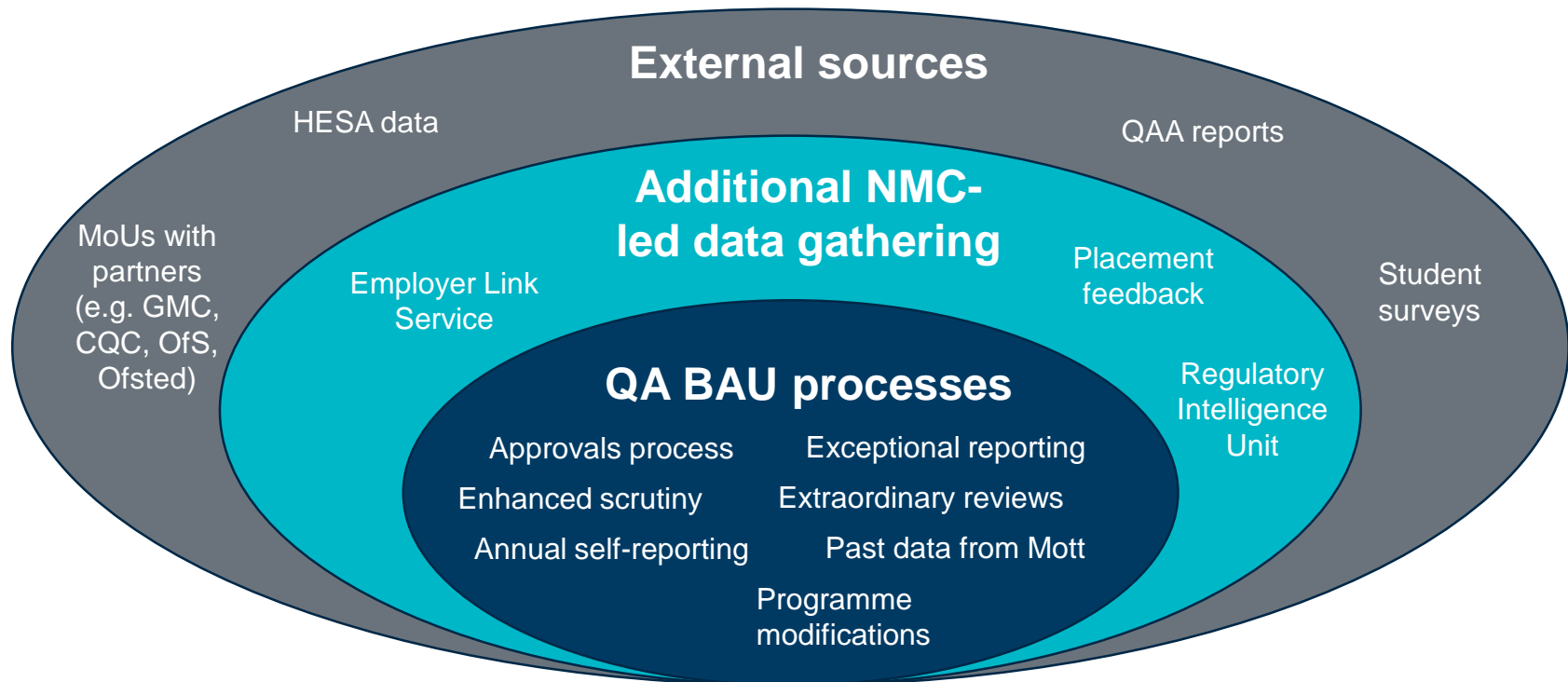# 1. Approvals: the new Gateway process

2. Data driven monitoring

Data driven monitoring will allow the NMC to identify potential areas of concern regarding individual AEIs, education programmes and practice learning partners, and to understand overall trends in the sector.
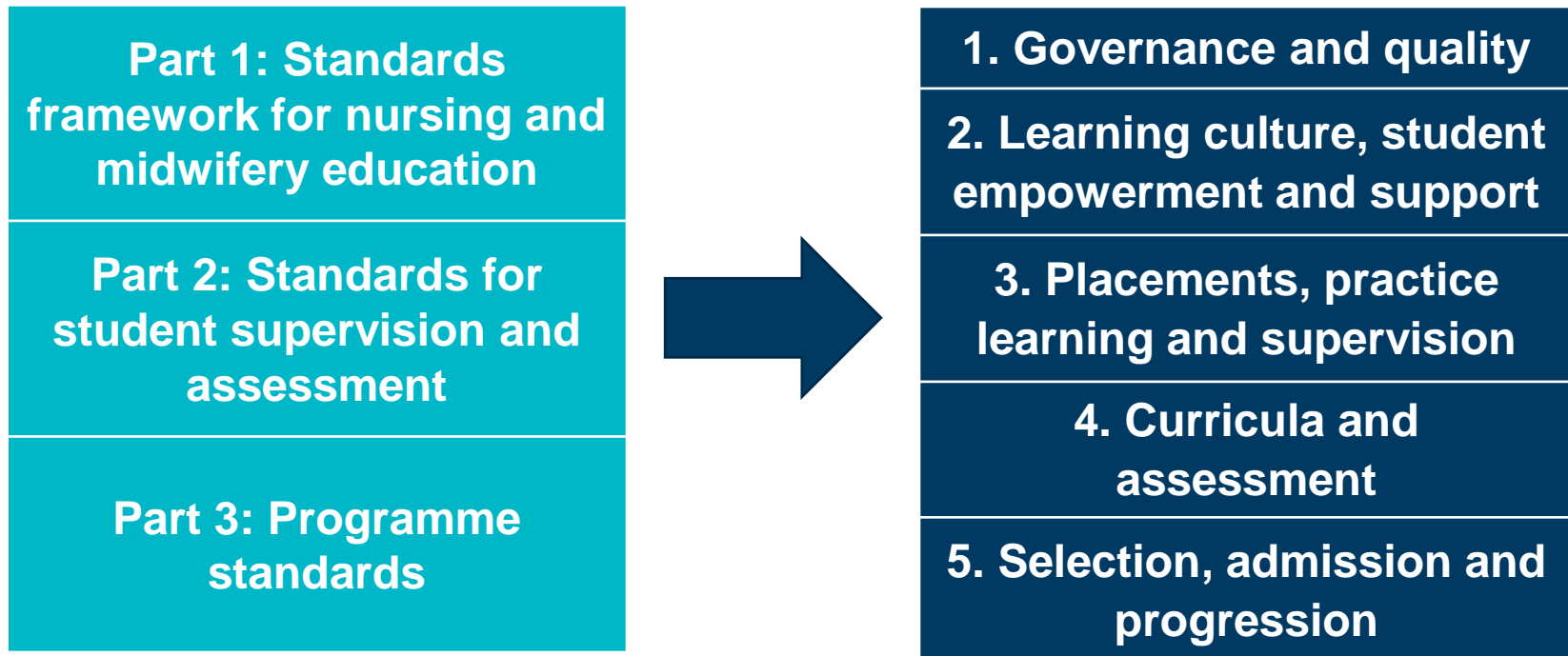
- We have reviewed internal and external data sources and considered the value that each data set brings regarding compliance with our standards.

- A combination of data sources will be included in an automated monitoring dashboard which will be regularly reviewed by our QA Team to identify potential concerns.

- We are working collaboratively with other health and education regulators to share data and intelligence.

Data source assessment: where we started

External sources

HESA data

QAA reports

MoUs with partners (e.g. GMC, CQC, OfS, Ofsted)

Additional NMC-led data gathering

Employer Link Service

Placement feedback

Student surveys

Regulatory Intelligence Unit

QA BAU processes

Approvals process

Exceptional reporting

Enhanced scrutiny

Extraordinary reviews

Annual self-reporting

Past data from Mott

Programme modifications

Linking data sources to the standards

To support the assessment of data sources we grouped the standards into five key themes and reviewed how each could be monitored.

Part 1: Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education

Part 2: Standards for student supervision and assessment

Part 3: Programme standards

1. Governance and quality

2. Learning culture, student empowerment and support

3. Placements, practice learning and supervision

4. Curricula and assessment

5. Selection, admission and progression

Example content for monitoring dashboard

We are in the process of identifying and evaluating data to be presented in a dashboard format. Potential dashboard content is shown below:

Level	Field	Source
AEI	AEI	NMC data
	Period as an AEI	NMC data
	Conditions on registration	External (Office for Students)
	AEI quality score	External (QAA, Ofsted)
	Concerns	NMC data
Programme	Programme title	NMC data
	Period since programme approval	NMC data
	Enhanced Scrutiny?	NMC data
	Student numbers	External (HESA)
	NSS - Overall satisfaction	External (Office for Students)
	NSS – NHS question average	External (Office for Students)
	Continuation	External (HESA)
	Percentage of students in related employment	External (HESA – Graduate Outcomes)
	Concerns	NMC data
Placement	Number of Practice Learning Partners (PLPs)	NMC data
	PLP quality scores and other data	External (CQC and national equivalents)
	Regulatory advisor dashboard	NMC data
	Concerns	NMC data

■ Indicator

Questions so far?

3. Annual self reporting (including thematic reporting)

Annual self reporting requires AEIs to make a declaration that they are meeting the standards, and to reflect on whether there are any risks and issues.
The declaration will be accompanied by a number of thematic questions to allow the NMC to better understand general areas of concern and to share good practice across the sector.

- We will continue to require annual self reporting from AEIs in December / January.

- However, from December 2019 onwards the data collection element of self reporting will be less burdensome, as we will gather data from external sources and regulatory partners wherever possible.

Annual self reporting requirements

Requirement	Description
Part 1: Declaration *All programmes*	Confirmation that a programme continues to be in compliance with all NMC standards and requirements, and that key information is up to date in NMC systems. *This declaration will lead to action by the NMC only by exception.*
Part 2: Thematic questions *All programmes*	Specific questions relating to key themes identified by the NMC. *Analysis of the answers will be reported back to AEIs through webinars, including sharing of good practice.*
Part 3: New programme monitoring or Enhanced Scrutiny *Only programmes on these processes*	Additional questions specially for programmes under Enhanced Scrutiny, giving the NMC additional assurance, particularly for new programmes where data is not yet available. *Answers to these questions will be analysed in advance of enhanced scrutiny monitoring calls.*

4. Managing concerns and intervening where required

The Concerns process allows the NMC to categorise and track risks as they emerge, and to respond proportionately.

- AEIs are required to report any risks that may affect their compliance with our standards. We may also identify concerns through data driven monitoring and intelligence we receive.

- On receipt of a concern or exceptional report, the QA Team review and determine the level of concern (minor, moderate, major, critical) and therefore the most appropriate regulatory intervention, if any.

- Regulatory interventions available range from an email request for clarification through to extraordinary review and withdrawal of approval.

Regulatory interventions available to the NMC

Email request for clarification/assurance
Call from QA Officer
Call from Senior QA Officer
Call from Education QA Manager
Call from Head of Education and QA
Action plans developed and monitored
Face to face meeting with Head of Education and QA
Enhanced Scrutiny
Monitoring visit
Extraordinary review
Withdrawal of approval

Questions so far?

5. New programme monitoring/Enhanced Scrutiny

New programme monitoring/Enhanced Scrutiny allows the NMC to monitor more closely when AEIs and/or programmes are new or where there is perceived to be a greater level of risk.

- New programme monitoring is a period of additional monitoring for any new AEI, or AEI running a pre-registration programme for the first time.

    - This does not include the addition of a new field/route to an existing programme

- The standard period is from the point of approval to the point that the first student from the programme joins the NMC's register.

- In response to concerns, the NMC may also place existing programmes under Enhanced Scrutiny to provide increased monitoring and support.

New programme monitoring/ Enhanced Scrutiny

- Programmes under these processes are required to submit self-reporting returns twice a year. One of these is submitted alongside the standard annual self reporting in December / January, and an additional report takes place in June / July.

- After each reporting there will be a monitoring call with an assigned contact within the NMC's QA Team.

- Programmes will exit Enhanced Scrutiny when concerns are considered to have been addressed (or, for new programmes, when the first student joins the register and there are no ongoing concerns).

- Enhanced Scrutiny can be extended in situations where there are ongoing concerns.

Wider engagement supporting implementation of the QA Approach

- Implementation events

- Collaborating with Council of Deans of Health

- Assessing feedback on approvals

- Discussions with partners on data

- Testing proposals around monitoring with AEIs

Questions?

Next steps

- Ongoing approval of programmes

- Ongoing discussions with partners on data

- Refinement of approach to monitoring through testing with AEIs

Thank you

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Nursing & Midwifery Council