

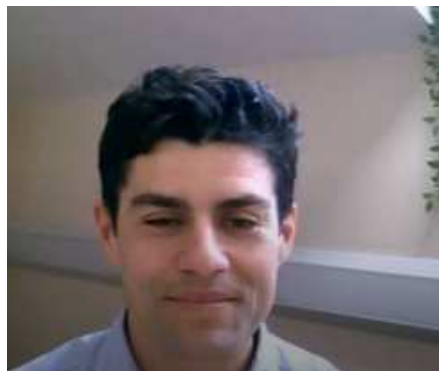
Advanced Practice review – Phase one outcomes and recommendations

Prof Sam Foster: Executive Director
Professional Practice



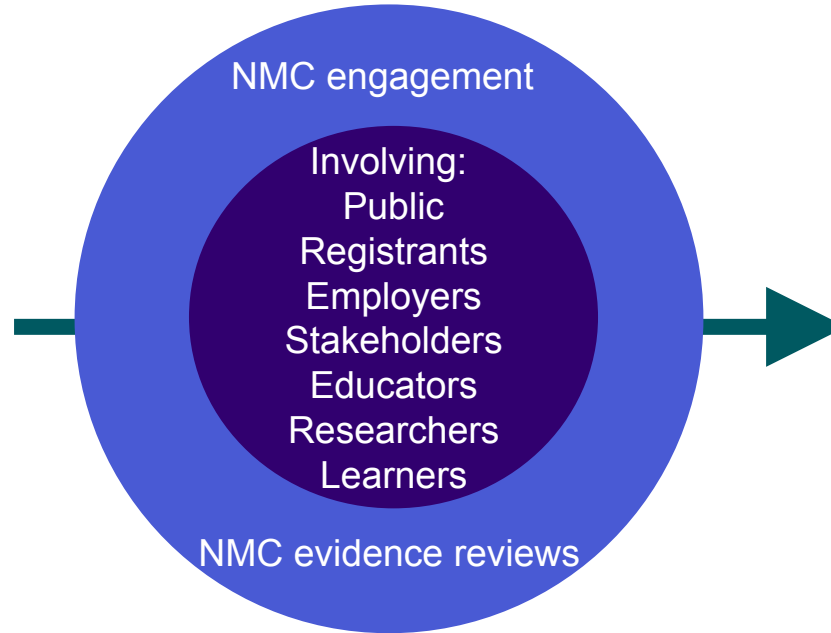
Advanced Practice in context

The benefit of advanced practice professionals and the importance of hearing the public voice in this review



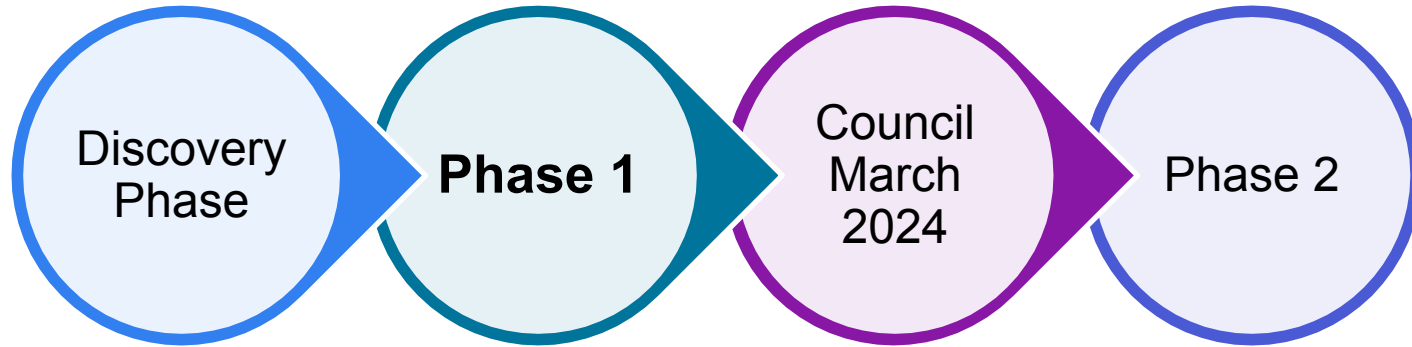
Why this review matters

To explore if additional regulation of nurses and midwives in advanced practice roles is needed



Safe, person-centred care for people and communities when being cared for by professionals in advanced practice roles

Our review



Oversight by Independent Steering Group with project governance
by the internal project board

Stakeholder engagement

Professionals



1,693 across educators, employers, learners, researchers, internationally educated, royal colleges, regulators

Public and people who use services



2,142 individuals through public advisory group, survey, maternity service users, NMC public voice forum, four country events

“ [There was] a lot of interaction and a good level of respect for all participants input, no matter how diverse.”



Joint health and care professional regulators group

Independent analysis of engagement



Widespread positive recognition of the AP role and its importance in the health and care system

Improved quality of care, support enhanced capacity, help relieve service pressure, support career progression, retention and workforce development plans



Concern around variability and inconsistency of the AP role continues

Across education and training, qualifications, roles and responsibilities, governance processes – all seen as risks for the public, professionals and employers



Concern around lack of standardisation of the role and ongoing assurance of competence and capability

We heard.....

“ I’ve been attached to many different midwives.. like specialist etc. but I cannot remember one with advanced. What is the difference?” – **Maternity service user, England**

“ I believe strongly that the status quo can’t continue. [...] It is leading to inconsistencies in pay and performance; the latter worries me in terms of patient safety.”
Employer, England

“ We feel very deflated about their lack of recognition, it’s important to find a way to elevate our status with the public.”
Advanced Nurse Practitioner, Scotland

“ It gives consistency and minimum standards. It’s about the quality, so that we’ve got standards that we can say APs have, no matter what background they’re from.”
Employer, Wales

“ As a lay person I would now be expecting that kind of brilliance from anybody who’s saying they’re an AP. That this might not be the case concerns me.”
Health and care service user, England

“ That won’t be on its own, in order to have a test of competence there needs to be some standards shown consistently so that could be a combination of the options.”
Midwife, Northern Ireland

Consensus across all groups of the risks to public protection of maintaining the status quo



Additional regulation is an opportunity to **reduce variability, provide consistency, enhance public perceptions**, strengthen confidence and trust, and **provide clarity** across sector

NMC seen to play a key role in **mitigating risks** from variability and inconsistency through **additional regulation**



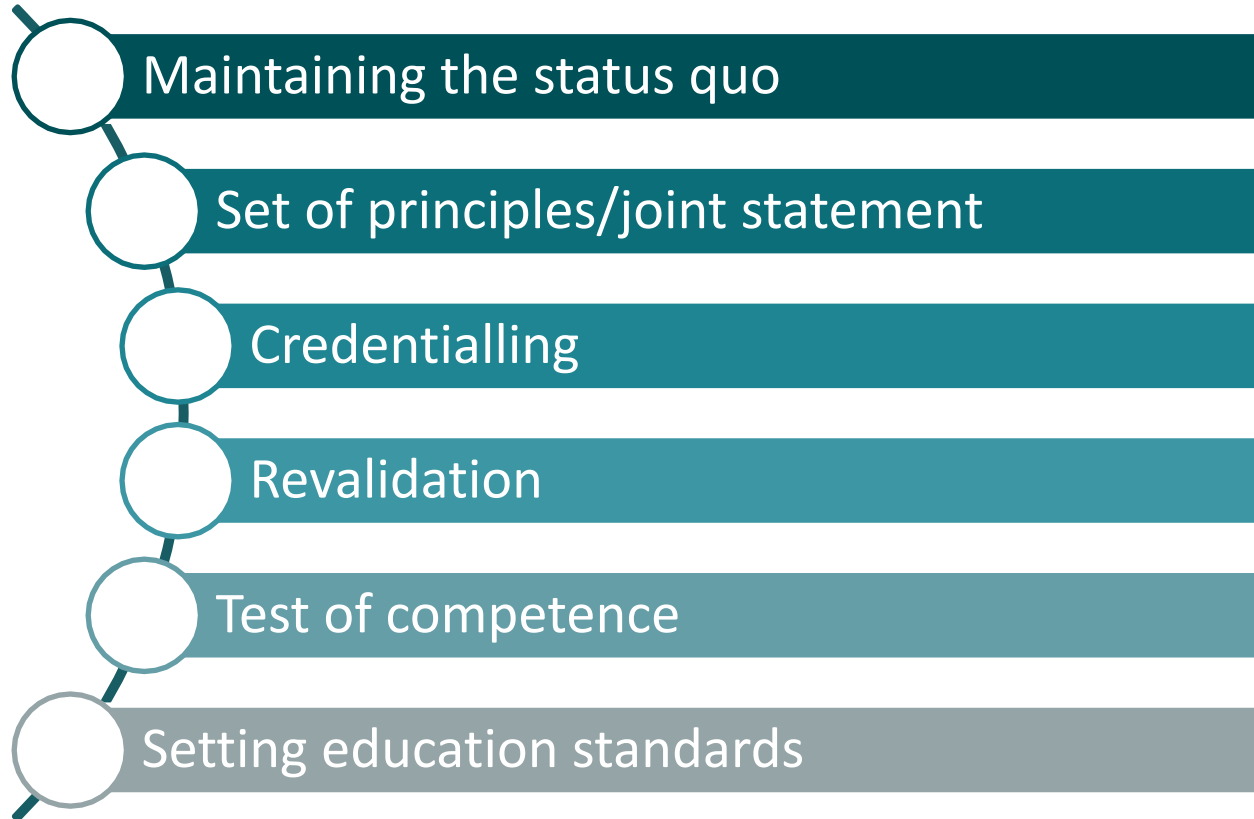
Professionals would feel **supported** in developing and delivering the AP role

Public are clear they would be **confident** that APs have met required standards, are **competent and capable** in their roles



In favour of **objective measurable approaches** to additional regulation and **building** on existing mechanisms – **no single approach able to mitigate all risks**

Potential regulatory options



Economic evaluation



External economic specialist consultants commissioned



Initial scoping work as part of Phase 1 to explore costs/benefits



Given the risks and associated costs, initial work suggests that setting education standards would be the preferred option



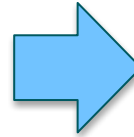
Further detailed economic analysis will be undertaken as part of Phase 2 delivery and planning for transition and implementation

Consensus

Independent steering group

Consensus for recommendations to
Executive Board

Reviewed evidence



Engagement analysis
Options appraisal
Joint regulatory group
Public advisory group

Right-touch regulation
Relevant across four countries of UK
Aligned to four country workforce
plans
Relevant to both professions
Ambitious and future-proofed

Recommendation to the Council

That additional regulation of advanced practice is needed for both nursing and midwifery professionals and agree to proceed to phase two of the AP review

Proceed to develop the following approaches:



Develop standards of proficiency for advanced level practice and associated programme standards



Adopt a collaborative approach to develop a UK wide AP framework incorporating a shared position or definition of advanced level practice



Ensure that advanced level practice requirements are included in the wider review of revalidation and the Code scheduled for 2025 -26

Thank You

Any questions?

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