



Department
of Health &
Social Care

From the Rt Hon Matt Hancock MP
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Dr Sarah Wollaston MP
Chair, Health and Social Care Committee
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22 JUL 2019

Thank you for your letter of 3 July seeking an update on the Government response to the consultation *Promoting professionalism; reforming regulation* which set out high level proposals to the reform of professional regulation.

On 9 July 2019, the UK Government and devolved Governments published their response to *Promoting professionalism; reforming regulation*. A copy can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/promoting-professionalism-reforming-regulation>

Our response commits to taking forward legislative changes to the regulators' fitness to practise processes and operating framework. These changes will deliver:

- Modern and efficient fitness to practise processes;
- Better supported professionals; and
- More responsive and accountable regulation.

We will also make the legislative changes recommended by the Williams review into Gross Negligence Manslaughter in Healthcare, including removing the General Medical Council's right to appeal decisions made by the Medical Practitioners Tribunal Service which is an area I know is of interest to the Health Select Committee.

In developing our response, we have reflected on and responded to the findings of a number of recent reports, including the NHS Long Term Plan and the Interim People Plan.

These changes are a real step forward in delivering on our manifesto commitment to reform and rationalise the current outdated system of professional regulation of healthcare professions.

The UK and Devolved Governments will now work together to develop and then consult on draft legislation.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

MATT HANCOCK