

7. Making a referral?

If there are concerns that a professional may not be fit to practice, it may be appropriate to make a referral to their professional regulator. Anyone can alert a professional regulator, including registrants, employers, service users and members of the public. Organisation should follow their own internal policies & procedures. Each regulator has detailed processes of how to alert them to concerns about an individual's fitness to practise which can be found on their websites. A referral via local PiPOT process and DBS may also be necessary.

6. Concerns

Concerns can be raised, and can include:

- Failing to act in the best interests of the patient(s)
- Professional misconduct
- Abusive or discriminatory views or behaviours
- Not having the necessary knowledge of English
- Committing a crime or receiving a police caution
- Covering up mistakes or hampering investigations
- Dishonesty, fraud or exploitation

[SANN Resources - NHS Safeguarding Workspace - FutureNHS Collaboration Platform](#)

5. Conduct

Regulators set out the professional code of practice & ethical standards, see section 4. Concerns about a professional's competence or conduct may arise in their professional work. Sometimes how a professional conducts themselves in their private life might also demonstrate professional misconduct and raise public safety concerns.

1. Introduction

A professional regulator is an organisation with legislative functions relating to the regulation within health and social care. Parliament states which professions must be regulated in law, this is informed by many different factors including the risk of harm that professionals may pose to patients and the wider public. Regulated professionals, alongside other colleagues in health and social care are considered Persons in a Position of Trust (PiPoT).

2. Why do Regulators exist?

Statutory regulation refers to health and social care professions that must be registered with a professional regulatory body by law. There are ten health and care professional regulators across the UK, and each have an overarching statutory objective to protect the public. This includes: to protect, promote and maintain the health, safety and well-being of the public, to promote and maintain public confidence in the professions regulated; and to promote and maintain proper professional standards and conduct.

3. What do professional regulators do?

Professional regulators do four key things:

1. Develop codes of practice, ethical standards, and good practice guidelines.
2. Investigate complaints about people on their register.
3. Review education standards.
4. Maintain a public register of professionals who meet their required standards.

4. Who are the regulators?

- [General Chiropractic Council](#)
- [General Dental Council](#)
- [General Medical Council](#)
- [General Optical Council](#)
- [General Osteopathic Council](#)
- [General Pharmaceutical Council](#)
- [Health and Care Professions Council](#)
- [Nursing and Midwifery Council](#)
- [Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland](#)
- [Home - Social Work England](#)