

# An overview of our Annual Report and Fitness to Practise Annual Report

2015-16



# NURSES AND MIDWIVES

At the end of March 2016, there were **692,550** nurses and midwives on our register, making us **the largest professional register in the UK**.

This year we successfully launched **revalidation** – the new way that nurses and midwives renew their registration with the NMC every three years. Every nurse and midwife on our register will need to go through the process and demonstrate that they are **practising safely and effectively** in line with the Code.

In January 2016 we successfully implemented EU requirements on recognising professional qualifications. We can now ask that nurses and midwives trained outside the UK demonstrate that they have the necessary knowledge of English to practise.

At the end of March 2016, **88%** of nurses and midwives are now signed up to use our digital platform NMC online.

# EDUCATION

**In 2016 our education strategic plan was approved. It identifies our key priorities for 2016–17 and beyond, they include:**

- Development of new standards of proficiency for the future graduate registered nurse and midwife
- Development of a new education framework
- An independent review of our quality assurance function
- A review of standards for medicines management prescribing and return to practice.



# FITNESS TO PRACTISE

**We made several significant improvements to our fitness to practise processes this year.**

- We have introduced case examiners to decide whether a case should be referred to a hearing
- We launched our Employer Link Service, to better support employers of nurses and midwives, and to ensure that we receive the right fitness to practise referrals at the right time
- We launched our Witness Liaison team, set up specifically to support witnesses who participate in our hearings.

## Key Stats

**5415** new referrals received

**2665** cases closed at the early stages of FtP

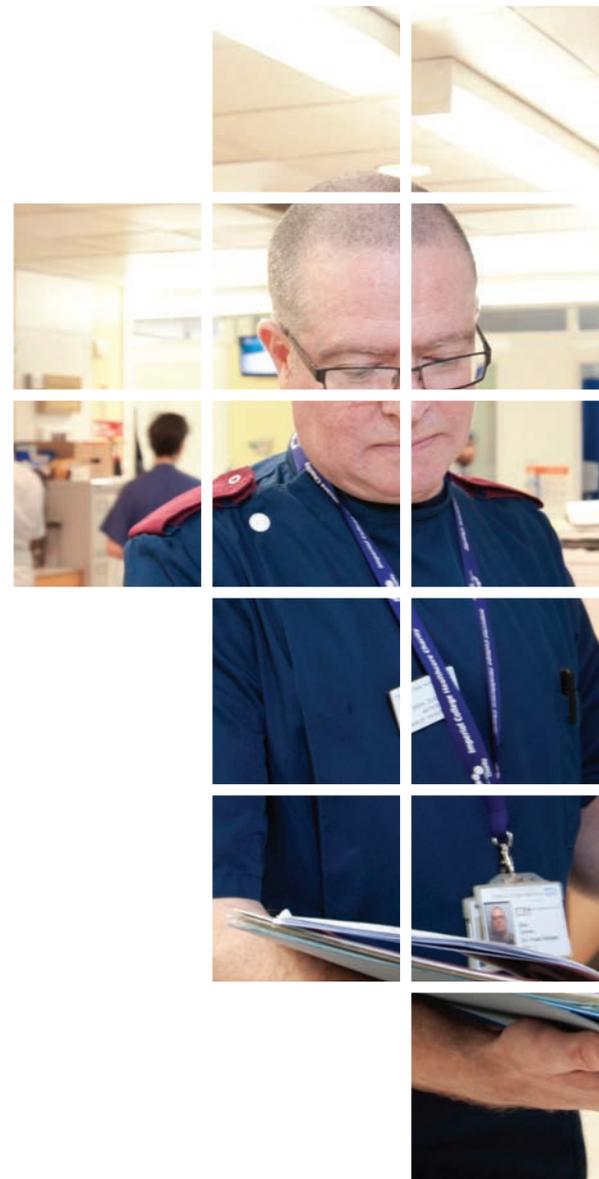
**685** interim orders imposed

**3245** case to answer decisions

**960** cases concluded at a hearing

**809** sanctions imposed

**78%** of cases were concluded within 15 months.



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The nursing and midwifery regulator for England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland  
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