First nurses and midwives to revalidate

As you are all aware, the first nurses and midwives due to revalidate are those whose registration is due to expire in April 2016. This means that for those nurses and midwives they will be able to submit their revalidation application from the beginning of February. We have been working hard to ensure we have the systems in place to allow this first cohort of nurses and midwives to go through the revalidation process as smoothly as possible. These nurses and midwives will have received their first email reminder this week and will receive their formal notices in late January.

Direct communications to nurses and midwives

Following our August revalidation postcard mail out and post Council decision communications with nurses and midwives, sign-up to NMC Online currently stands at 76% - exceeding our target. We will continue to drive nurses and midwives to sign up to NMC Online through all of our communications as this is the mechanism through which they will submit their revalidation application.

Email programme

In addition to the formal notices to nurses and midwives about revalidation, we have introduced a programme of targeted, segmented email communications for nurses and midwives in the final 12 months leading up to their revalidation application date. These email communications will provided helpful reminders as to what nurses and midwives should be thinking about at different stages of the revalidation journey and provide us with the additional functionality of embedding media resources such as case study videos within them.

Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) advice on storing forms electronically – update

We are aware that there has been some concern around the previous advice provided by the ICO in relation to the electronic storage of the reflective discussion and confirmation forms. We have been in regular contact with the ICO around this issue and we are pleased to say that the ICO have now agreed to update their advice which has been reflected in the updated version of ‘How to Revalidate with the NMC’ which will now state:

Your reflective discussion form and confirmation form contain personal data about another person. This means that there are data protection implications for nurses and midwives completing these forms. However, the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO) recognises that it would be highly disproportionate to expect nurses and midwives to have to register with them as data controllers. The ICO has confirmed that it is not planning to take any action against any nurse or midwife for failing to register. You may choose to store your completed reflective discussion and confirmation forms in either paper or electronic format. You should still respect the fact that these forms contain personal data about your reflective discussion partner and confirmer.
Update to ‘How to Revalidate with the NMC’ and other guidance documents

As part of the process of developing the guidance and supporting materials for revalidation we committed to making revisions to these materials where appropriate to ensure we provide as much clarity to nurses and midwives as possible.

We have now updated ‘How to revalidate with the NMC’ to reflect the change in position from the ICO as outlined above. We have also made a number of other small changes to this document. These changes do not affect the model of revalidation or the revalidation requirements but simply provide more clarification around certain areas and correct minor grammatical errors. We have also updated the guidance for employers, guidance for confirmers, various guidance sheets and all forms and templates in line with these minor changes. **Nurses and midwives using the previous versions of the guidance and forms will still be able to go through the revalidation process.**

These forms and templates are now available on the NMC’s website.

Planned communications products

In addition to the revalidation materials currently available we will be producing a range of communications products in January 2016 to support nurses and midwives through revalidation.

Revalidation microsite – to be launched in January, and sitting as part of the NMC main website, this will be one stop shop for all revalidation related information. It will contain guidance on the process and host useful tools such as case studies and videos to support nurses, midwives and employers through revalidation.

Animation – We are producing a short animation which will provide a clear overview of the revalidation process. Organisations will be able to link to the animation on our website or alternatively we can provide you with the animation to host yourself.

Case study films – We will be producing five short case study videos featuring nurses and midwives from a range of practice settings who went through the revalidation pilot process. The videos will provide an overview of revalidation as well as focusing on some of the individual requirements.

Case studies – We will be publishing a range of written case studies from nurses and midwives from a range of different practice setting who went through the revalidation pilot process.

*NMC, January 2016*