

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COUNCILS



Scheme Application Redesign Project
Benefits and outcomes

Strategy 2021

Strategy 2021 is the Councils' strategic plan for long-term success, approved in June 2018. It sets out five strategic goals to be achieved over three years.



Redesigning the application process responds to three of the five strategic goals and represents a culmination of Councils' work between 2018 and 2021.

STRATEGIC GOALS

Make a practical and transparent change to Councils regulatory focus to enable schemes, including for occupational groups



Drive improvements in professional standards for better consumer protection

Build an evidence base to demonstrate effectiveness

Ensure the regulatory system is robust and protects consumers

Make the regulatory system easy to deal with





Improved regulatory relationships

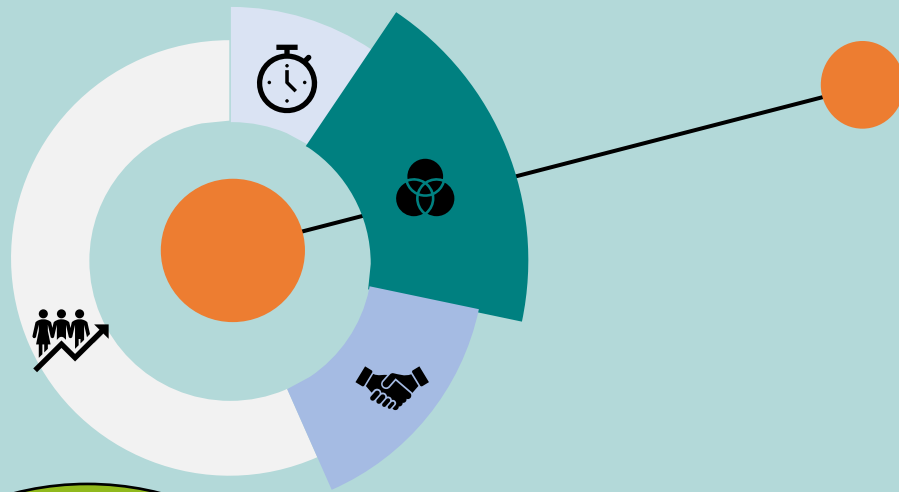
Increased positive contact with consumer groups, consultants and potential new applicants

Enthusiasm to trial the new approach and technology for remake and amendment applications

Buy-in for the new framework has increased since Discovery

Expressions of interest already received to use the new framework

Conflicting perspectives aligned over time through consistent communications



We agreed on five key outcomes to achieve from redesigning the application process



1. Improve the focus on consumer protection
2. Modernise the application process
3. Integrate the application with annual reporting
4. Provide an evidence base to demonstrate scheme success
5. Improve engagement between Councils and associations





Improve the focus on consumer protection

Why?

To align more clearly with the objectives of professional standards legislation

How?

Module 4.0 *Professional risk management* is separated from submodule 1.3 *Enterprise risk management* (strategic and operational business risks)

dedicated submodule 3.1 *Consumers and consumer harms*

increased references to consumer protection through the framework



Modernise the application process

How?

updated
regulatory
guidance in
line with best
practice

interactive micro-site
planned to house the
new application
framework on
Councils' website

human-centred
design features
included to
maximise clarity
and simplicity

Why?

To take advantage of
new technology and
make improvements
based on
advancements in
regulatory practice



Integrate the application with annual reporting

Why?

To create a seamless transition from application to annual reporting over the lifecycle of the scheme

formal handover arrangements between the Schemes and Supervision teams within the Authority

mandatory post-application workshop to help transition from application to annual reporting after scheme approval.

How?

Module 6.0 *Association Professional Standards Report* included as a dedicated module to annual reporting



Provide an evidence base to demonstrate scheme success

How?

Why?

increased use of templates to standardise information provided by different applicants

measurable benefits and metrics developed

To find new ways of reporting the success of schemes to others, using data as evidence of effectiveness



Improve engagement between Councils and associations

Why?

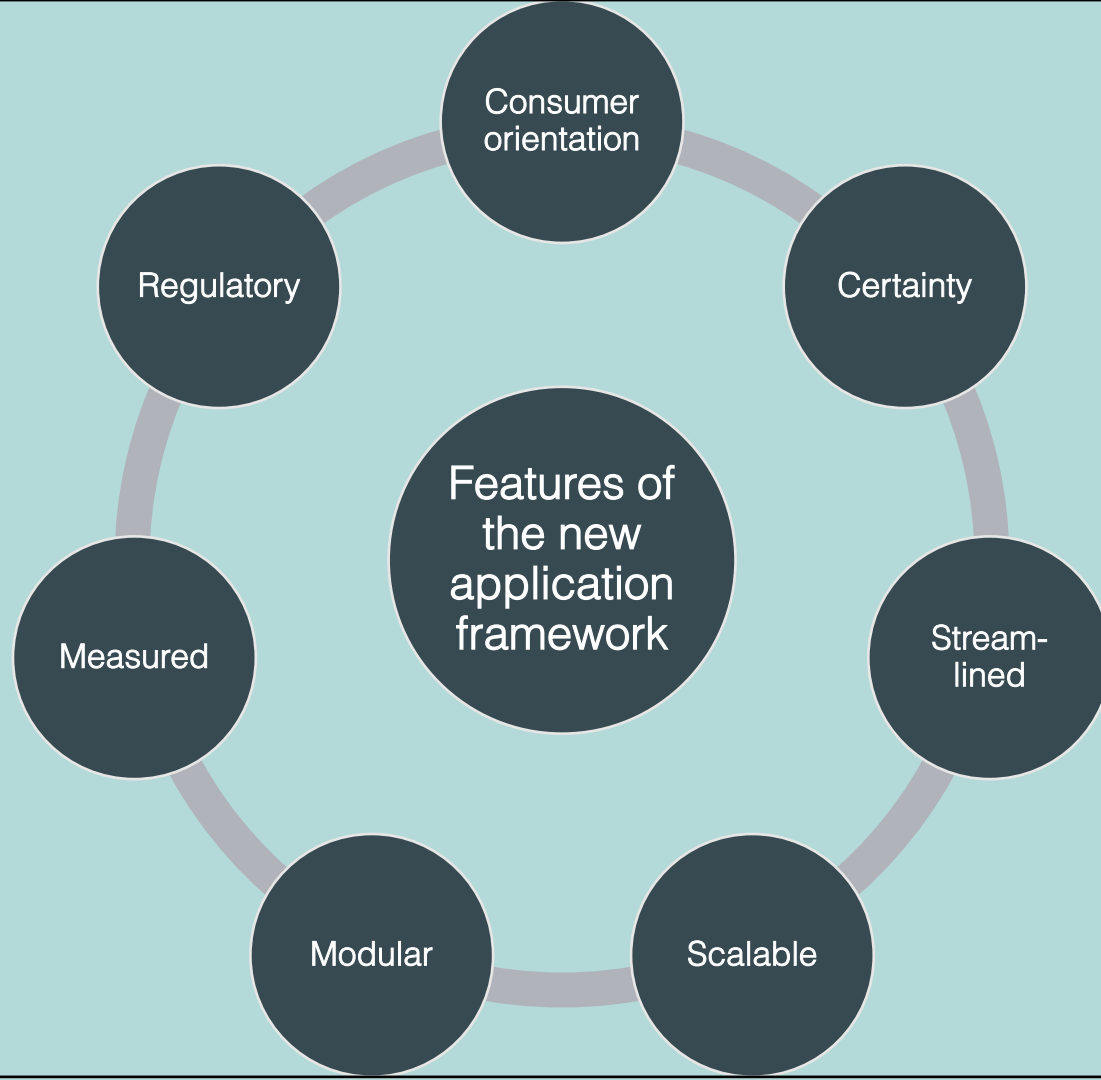
To strengthen
regulatory
relationships, using
engagement to
improve professional
standards

How?

amount and
quality of
engagement with
regulated
associations
increased

expressions of
interest to use
the new
application
framework
before launch
already received

positive co-design
activities, including
roundtables, Reference
Group and one-on-one
videoconferences



Pilot phase: 1-year transition



July - August
2021

*Application
2021* launch:

- website publication



January – May
2022

Roundtables for
stakeholders:

- Current and prospective associations



June 2021
Application 2021
framework:

- approval
- delivery



September –
December 2021

Integrate:

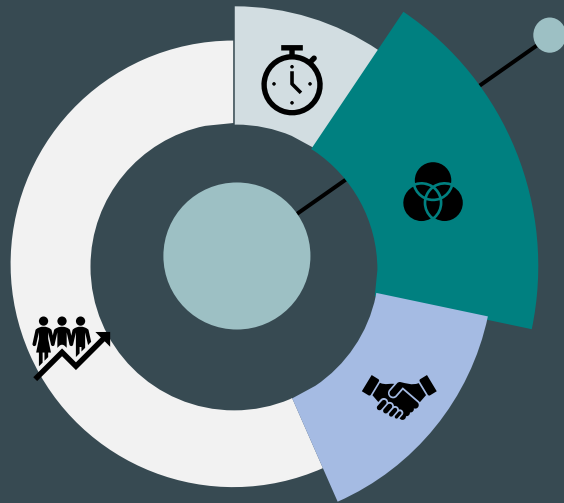
- *Association Professional Standards Report*
- *Plain English enhancements*



June 2022
*Application
Guidelines and
Template*

phase-out:

- transition complete



Aligned to
legislation

More associations
regulated with a
broader range of
occupations

More professionals
benefiting from
continuous
professional
standards
improvement

More
harmonious
and high-
quality
regulatory
relationships

More consumers
benefiting from
greater focus on
their protection

Aligned to
*Strategy
2021* goals

Continuous improvement