

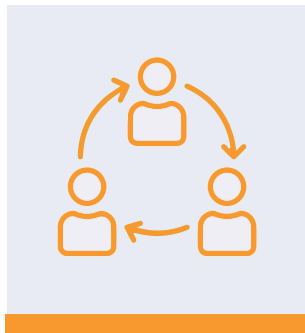


General  
Osteopathic  
Council

# Strategic Plan

## 2024-30

**Our strategy towards 2030**



We are consulting on this draft Strategic Plan and are keen to hear from patients, the public, osteopaths, partners and any organisations involved with the profession of osteopathy.

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# 1. Introduction

This Strategic Plan for the General Osteopathic Council (GOsC) sets out the overarching approach that we intend to follow from April 2024 to March 2030 and builds on the achievements of the Strategic Plan 2019-2024.

We are committed to continuing to perform as a highly effective healthcare regulatory body, increasing our understanding of how our actions might impact upon or improve trust between the General Osteopathic Council – as the regulator for osteopathy – and the profession and patients.

We intend to drive forward our commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion and to ensure continuous improvement remains central to the work we do and how we do it. We commit to carrying out and delivering on our responsibilities collaboratively and respectfully, informed by evidence, and to constructively support and influence those we work with to enhance public protection.

## 2. Our vision

**Our vision is to be an inclusive, innovative regulator trusted by all.**

## 3. Our priorities

The GOsC is committed as a regulator and an employer to carry out our strategic aims which are organised under the following three key priorities:

### **Strengthening trust:**

We will work to enhance/improve our relationships with those we work with so together we can help protect patients and the public.

### **Championing inclusivity:**

It is important to us that people who interact with us, or who work for us, can be their true selves and that we understand and break down any barriers which prevent them from doing so.

### **Embracing innovation:**

We will continually seek out and take opportunities to improve what we do and how we do it, so we continue to improve as an organisation.

## 4. Achieving our strategic aims

For each of our priorities we will focus on the following:

### Strengthening trust

#### Key priority areas

- Exploring the relationship between the GOsC and osteopaths and how this may impact on trust, and on patient safety.
- Working in partnership with osteopaths, patients, educators and other stakeholders to model the values and behaviours expected of all healthcare professionals.
- Further developing our approach to collective regulation, where organisations and individuals work in partnership together for the benefit of patient safety.
- Engaging with osteopaths, patients and other stakeholders to ensure our purpose, work and future direction is understood.

#### Key actions

- Commissioning research to help us better understand the impact of regulation on trust.
- Undertaking and assessing the results of regular osteopath, stakeholder and public/patient surveys so we can measure the impact of our activities over time and take appropriate action.
- Ensuring our regulatory approach is evidence-informed by bringing insight from the external environment into the GOsC and taking appropriate actions as a result.

#### How we will demonstrate success

- Demonstrating, with supporting evidence from our research, which regulatory actions impact on trust, and as a result, either changing those actions or explaining the restrictions to help build more trusted relationships.
- Demonstrating improvement over time, through mechanisms such as surveys, that trust between the GOsC and osteopaths is improving.

## Championing inclusivity

### Key priority areas

- Holding ourselves accountable and actively demonstrating the behaviours we hope to see across the profession and with stakeholders by living our agreed values.
- Ensuring decisions made by Council and its Committees align with the agreed GOsC Values.
- Analysing the impact of our equality monitoring data, and taking appropriate actions as a result, so we can be confident our processes and policies are inclusive and not discriminatory.
- Ensuring our governance structure, and our staff are diverse, inclusive and able to be their true selves, so that we are more representative of wider society.

### Key actions

- Increasing the quality of equality monitoring data held across the organisation and taking appropriate actions as a result.
- Recruiting to our Executive and Non-Executive roles a diverse and inclusive range of talent so that we are more representative of wider society.
- Demonstrating how GOsC is embedding its values and making values-based decisions.

### How we will demonstrate success

- Demonstrate, with supporting data, that our regulatory processes are free from discrimination.
- Demonstrate that by 2030, our governance structure has a greater degree of diversity than at 2024.

## Embracing innovation

### Key priority areas

- Supporting the osteopathic education sector to explore different and innovative ways it can meet the graduate outcomes and the delivery of standards for education.
- Seeking new ways of ensuring both the osteopath and patient voice remains at the heart of all we do.
- Embracing the development of new technology to explore better ways of working to improve the experience for those who have contact with GOsC.
- Developing a strategy towards becoming an Environmentally Social Responsible organisation and employer.

### Key actions

- Commissioning research to enhance the development of our work in education and training, standards and fitness to practise.
- Considering how the GOsC governance structure can be further strengthened by patient and osteopath input.
- Creating an action plan for the implementation of the Environmental Social Responsibility Strategy against clear, measurable goals.

### How we will demonstrate success

- Demonstrate the impact of the osteopath and patient voice on our regulatory activities through the use of metrics.
- Demonstrate that the Osteopathic Practice Standards and Standards for Training continue to evolve in accordance with developments in modern healthcare practice.

In addition to the activities set out above, we will publish annual business plans outlining specific detail, outputs and outcomes that we plan to deliver.

# About the GOsC

The General Osteopathic Council is the independent statutory regulator for the profession of osteopathy. The Osteopaths Act 1993 requires us to develop and regulate the profession of osteopathy: our overarching objective is to protect the public.

## Our statutory objectives are:

- To protect, promote and maintain the health, safety and well-being of the public.
- To promote and maintain public confidence in the profession of osteopathy.
- To promote and maintain proper professional standards and conduct for members of the profession.



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