

# Enforcement policy

This policy sets out how we will use our enforcement powers under the Health and Social Care Act 2008, as amended by the Care Act 2014.

## Updates to this policy in 2023

Since we published this policy in 2015, we have:

- Improved the language to be more accessible, using clear, plain English.
- Removed the diagram 'CQC's Operating Model' as it is no longer relevant.
- Removed the table 'Relationship between the ratings and regulations' as it is out of date.
- Removed the principle 'integrating enforcement into our regulatory model', as it is now no longer relevant. We have published information about [our new approach to assessments](#) on our website.
- Removed the summary of the decision tree as we provide a [link](#) to it.
- Replaced the reference to 'sector' enforcement priorities with 'enforcement priorities' more generally.
- Updated the section on use of conditions to be more concise.

- Removed references to special measures where they concern NHS trusts as CQC and NHS England no longer use these.

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