

National Register of Public Service Interpreters



National Register of Public Service Translators

Regulation in Language Services

Occupation, Profession, Professionals, Regulation

Mike Orlov Executive Director & Registrar June 2022

Occupation or Profession

Regular activity performed to earn daily bread and butter - experienced or not

...but is there more to being a professional than earning money in a specific endeavour?

...does service-delivery need standards?

...is there a need for vocational qualifications as well as experience?

Occupation or Profession

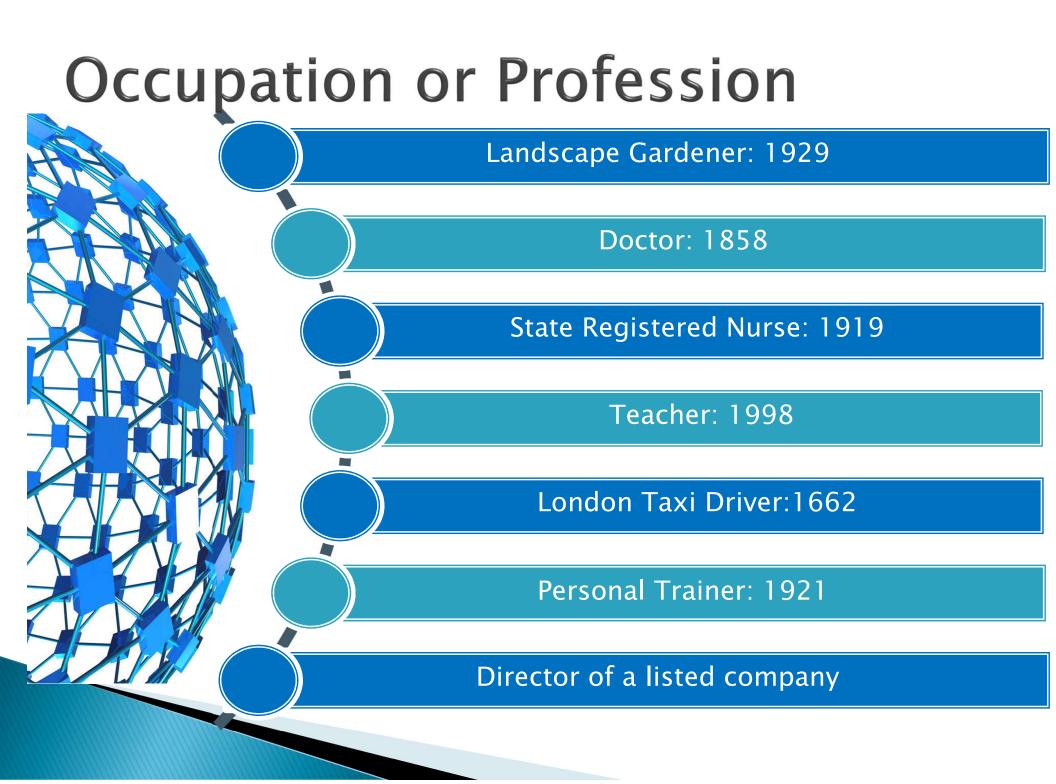
Does the occupation have:

- o Standards
- Training needs
- Relevant vocational qualifications
- Need to build competencies
- Measured degrees of competence
- A register of professional practitioners
- An independent regulator to hold professionals to account

Occupation or Profession

Can anyone set up in the role, even if they are:

- Unqualified
- Under-qualified
- Qualified but with irrelevant qualifications
- No accredited experience
- Lacking skills and competencies



Do professional practitioners need to be...

...accredited?

...registered?

...regulated?

According to PARN there are approximately 400 professional bodies in the UK

Represent 13 million professionals

- Professional associations for members
- Learned institutes and societies for members
- Regulatory bodies with qualifying Registrants

Professional Associations Research Network

A profession has a *governing body* when the complexity of service-delivery has *risk* which needs to be minimalised and mitigated

Regulated professions ensure accountability of professional service delivery by those who are registered and regulated

Does the profession have a need to minimise and mitigate risk through:

- Protecting the public
- Setting, maintaining and developing standards
- Relevant vocational qualifications
- Need to accredit competencies gained through experience
- Measured degrees of competence
- Protecting the practitioners
- A Code of Professional Conduct focusing on integrity
- Transparency ensuring visibility of accredited practitioners
- Protection of Title for practitioners
- A regulator and register of accredited professional practitioners

The extent to which the state has an interest in regulation of professions and how professions are regulated depends on *political necessity*

Self-regulation is action by the profession to operate and promulgate standards which are designed to ensure quality of practise, and accredit those fit to practise

Mandatory engagement

Self-regulation

Public interest merits some form of regulation

Statutory

Regulation

Limited Regulation; nascent, budding profession

No Regulation; Occupation

Journey to the best possible regulatory frameworks with 'Protection of Title'

Typically *self-regulation* is first worked out within the ecosystem, negotiated with wider range of stakeholders, and promoted to extend the influence of how *'fit-to-practise'* is measured

Balancing standards, cost and supply of professionals, focusing on levels of risk, will drive government action and possible statutory regulation





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