



Office for Product  
Safety & Standards

# Ethical Business Regulation – from principles to practice

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# Regulation – as it was

Generally characterised by:

- Adversarial, ‘them v us’ culture
- Mistrust
- Reluctance of businesses to seek help and guidance
- Little understanding by the regulator of how to build better relationships

# Regulation – as it is becoming

Regulators need to have in place these pre-requisites:

- Effective governance frameworks
- Effective accountability systems
- The right leadership, the right values, the right competences

# Regulation – developing new practices

- A risk-based approach
- A wide range of intervention options – the toolbox
- Effective means of measuring outcomes

Allows limited resources to be targeted at the biggest problems using methods that have the greatest likelihood of success

## For example...

- Primary Authority – allows businesses with a large national footprint to get assured advice, guidance and opportunities for joint working across most regulatory areas from a single, trusted regulator
- Safety of farm workers – a new approach to an old problem.