

**Abbreviated Minutes of the Meeting of the  
General Dental Council  
held at 11.30am on Friday 16 December 2022  
in Closed Session via MS Teams**

**Council Members present:**

Lord Harris	Chair
Terry Babbs	
Ilona Blue	
Donald Burden	
Anne Heal	
Angie Heilmann MBE	
Jeyanthi John	
Sheila Kumar	
Mike Lewis	
Caroline Logan	
Simon Morrow	
Laura Simons	

**Executive Directors in attendance:**

Ian Brack	Chief Executive and Registrar
Gurvinder Soomal	Chief Operating Officer
John Cullinane	Executive Director, Fitness to Practise
Stefan Czerniawski	Executive Director, Strategy
Lisa Marie Williams	Executive Director, Legal and Governance

**Staff and Others in attendance:**

Osama Ammar	Interim Associate Director, Policy and Research (item 8)
Lee Bird	Senior Governance Manager (throughout the meeting)
Kristen Bottrell	Policy Manager (item 12)
Sam Clements	Head of Risk Management and Internal Audit (item 9)
Rebecca Ledwidge	Deputy Head of Governance (throughout the meeting)
Rebecca Lucas	Policy Manager (item 12)
Joanne Rewcastle	Associate Director, Communications and Engagement (throughout the meeting)
Ross Scales	Head of Upstream Regulation (item 12)

**Apologies**

Katie Spears	Head of Governance
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## 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted apologies from Katie Spears.

## 2. Declaration of interests

- 2.1 All present declared an interest in respect of Item 11 – Lessons Learned in respect of Payment by Instalments.
- 2.2 Mike Lewis and Donald Burden declared an interest in respect of Item 10 – Council Member Reappointments and withdrew from the meeting for this item.

## 3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

- 3.1 The full minutes of the closed meeting held on 21 October 2022 had been **approved via correspondence**.

## 4. Matters Arising and Rolling Actions List

- 4.1 The Council **agreed** that the item marked 'suggested complete' should be considered complete and **noted** that one action remained live.

## 5. Decisions Log

- 5.1 The Council **noted** that one matter had been considered and noted via correspondence on 14 December 2022.

## 6. Minutes of the meetings of the Non-Statutory Committees

- 6.1 The minutes of the 16 November 2022 Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) meeting would be circulated after the meeting.
- 6.2 The Remuneration and Nomination Committee (RemNom) had met on 27 October 2022.
- 6.3 The Finance and Performance Committee (FPC) had met on 24 November 2022.
- 6.4 The Council **noted** the minutes of the non-statutory Committee meetings.

## 7. Chief Executive's Report

- 7.1 The Chief Executive provided an update on [legislative reform and the Professional Standards Authority (PSA) Review].
- 7.2 The Council **noted** the updates.
- The Interim Associate Director, Policy and Research joined the meeting.

## 8. International Registration

- 8.1 The Interim Associate Director, Policy and Research presented the updated position on international registration and outlined the pathway to consulting on draft rules in respect of the Overseas Registration Examination (ORE). The paper sought to provide the Council with an overview of the legal framework changes that the team anticipated. It was highlighted that the timetable was based on a number of contingent factors. The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) was planning to launch a consultation with regulators on mutual recognition arrangements and The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) was commencing a focused consultation on the future of the standstill arrangements. Both consultations were due to launch in January 2023.
- 8.2 The Council **noted** the updated position on international registration.

The Interim Associate Director, Policy and Research left the meeting.

The Head of Risk Management and Internal Audit joined the meeting.

## 9. Strategic Risk Appetite

9.1 The Head of Risk Management and Internal Audit presented the proposed strategic risk appetite to the Council for approval. It was outlined that the risk appetite was set on an annual basis and it was the Council's responsibility but the proposal had been considered by the Executive Management Team (EMT) and the ARC.

9.2 The Council **discussed** the [proposed approach, outlined some concerns with the current model and] asked for a revised proposal to be drawn up and go back through the appropriate governance channels.

The Head of Risk Management and Internal Audit left the meeting.

Donald Burden and Mike Lewis left the meeting for this item.

## 10. Council Member Reappointments

10.1 The Senior Governance Manager presented the paper which proposed that Donald Burden and Mike Lewis were both recommended to be reappointed to the Council for a [second term of office].

10.2 The Council **approved** the recommendations for reappointment.

10.3 The recommendations would then be submitted to the Professional Standards Authority for scrutiny and onwards to the Privy Council, [with a request] for the proposed reappointments to be made.

Donald Burden and Mike Lewis re-joined the meeting.

## 11. Council – Lessons Learned on Payment by Instalments

11.1 [The Council discussed the progress made by the Executive and Council since the work that took place around approving and implementing the scheme to allow payment of the Annual Retention Fee by instalments].

The Head of Upstream Regulation and two Policy Managers joined the meeting.

## 12. Promoting Professionalism

12.1 The Executive Director, Strategy, the Head of Upstream Regulation and two Policy Managers presented revised proposals, following feedback from the Council in October 2022. The team set out that principles were an element of a wider framework and there was a need to strike the right balance between the principles, the guidance and supporting materials in developing a framework to support registrants in their professionalism. The team were prioritising areas for supplementing guidance, there would be more supporting materials on certain topics. At this stage, the team were only seeking the Council's approval to proceed with exploration and further development of the professionalism framework.

12.2 The Council discussed the [proposals and] **agreed** that the exploratory work should be undertaken but the Council was not committed to moving to a principles-based approach.

## 13. Any Other Business

13.1 There was no other business, and the meeting was closed at 3.30pm.