

**Confirmed Abbreviated Minutes of the Meeting of the General Dental Council  
held at 9:30am on Thursday 28 March 2019  
in Closed Session at 37 Wimpole Street, London, W1G 8DQ**

**Council Members present:**

William Moyes	Chair
Terry Babbs	
Catherine Brady	
Geraldine Campbell	
Anne Heal	
Margaret Kellett	
Sheila Kumar	
Caroline Logan	
Kirstie Moons	
Simon Morrow	
Crispin Passmore	

**Executive Directors in attendance:**

Ian Brack	Chief Executive and Registrar
Bobby Davis	Executive Director, Organisational Development
Matthew Hill	Executive Director, Strategy
Tom Scott	Executive Director, Fitness to Practise (FtP) Transition
Gurvinder Soomal	Executive Director, Registration and Corporate Resources
Lisa-Marie Williams	Executive Director, Legal and Governance

**Staff in attendance:**

Polly Button	Governance Manager
Sam Clements	Head of Risk Management and Internal Audit (item 10 only)
Rebecca Cooper	Head of Strategy and Research (item 8 only)
Lisa Cunningham	Head of Communications and Engagement
Alex Gooding	Project Management Officer (item 8 only)
Ian Jackson	Director for Scotland
Rachel Knight	Head of Governance (Secretary)
David Roy	Senior Financial Planning and Analysis Manager (item 8 only)

**PART ONE – PRELIMINARY ITEMS**

**1. Welcome and apologies for absence**

1.1. Apologies were received from Jeyanthi John.

**2. Declarations of interest**

2.1. All staff declared an interest in item 7, Estates Strategy Update.

**3. Approval of minutes of the previous meetings**

- 3.1 Council **approved** the minutes of the meeting held on 31 January 2019 subject to an amendment.
- 3.2 Council **approved** the abbreviated minutes of the meeting held on 31 January 2019 for publication.
- 3.3 Council **approved** the minutes and abbreviated minutes for publication of the meeting held on 13 December 2018.

#### **4. Matters arising from the Closed Council meeting held on 31 January 2019 and rolling actions list**

- 4.1. Council **noted** the actions list and **approved** the completion of actions as recommended.
- 4.2. There were no matters arising.

#### **5. Decisions log**

- 5.1. Council **noted** that there had been no decisions between meetings or under delegation.

### **PART TWO – ITEMS FOR DECISION AND DISCUSSION**

#### **6. Update from the Chair**

- 6.1 The Chair updated Council on recruitment and committee membership.
- 6.2 The Chairs Strategy Group (CSG) had met on 21 February 2019 and provided a summary of the agenda. Going forward the CSG would hold frequent and purposeful meetings to drive agenda.

#### **7. Estates Strategy Programme Update**

- 7.1 The Executive Director, Registration and Corporate Resources confirmed that the final sign off to complete the Strand 1 works was imminent. The registration and finance teams were fully operational from the new office and all London staff in those teams had departed.
- 7.2 Plans for the refitting of Wimpole Street had been agreed subject to costing which was underway. Council scrutinised the rationale for the proposals
- 7.3 It was noted that the staff churn amongst Strand 1 appointments was lower than expected. As staff completed their probation the notice periods would extend which would improve staffing resilience. The 2019 and forecast budgets included travel costs between sites, although staff had been directed to use technology as much as possible. Council requested regular updates on where GDC functions and posts were located across the estate.

**Action: Council to receive a quarterly organisation chart which included staff location.**

- 7.6 Council **noted** the update.

#### **8. Corporate Strategy 2020**

- 8.1 Council considered the draft Corporate Strategy consultation material and the associated communications plan. A number of revisions and actions were agreed and authority to approve the final material was delegated to the Chair and CEO, subject to the Chair of FPC's endorsement of the financial content.

#### **9. Regulatory Reform Update**

- 9.1 The Executive Director, Strategy, explained two developments that had occurred since the paper had been circulated.
- 9.2 Council **noted** the update.

## 10. Strategic Risk Update

- 10.1 The Head of Risk Management and Internal Audit highlighted the key updates to the February strategic risk register circulated to Council on 11 March 2019. It was noted that the circulated document was accessible in the appropriate folder on iPads.
- 10.2 Council **approved** the Strategic Risk Register and **noted** the update.

## 11. Stakeholder perceptions survey

- 11.1 The Chair of Council explained that this item had come to Council at his request because he wanted the Council to discuss whether the report should be published, given that there were concerns about the impact of the report.
- 11.2 Council **agreed** that the report or findings should not be published until members had had an opportunity to read the documents alongside a summary and response from the GDC.

**ACTION: In order to benefit from the reports a summary of the research and a response explaining the common misconceptions should be prepared for the May Council meeting. The decision on publication would be made at the May meeting.**

## 12. Horizon scan

- 12.1 Council received the horizon scan paper.
- 12.2 It was noted that the content of the paper continued to improve and would benefit from more forward-looking material.
- 12.3 Council **noted** the horizon scan.

## 13. Any Other Business

- 13.1 The Chief Executive highlighted that the platform lift at the front door was not functioning and required replacement. An off the shelf solution had been rejected by the landlord and council so a bespoke solution was being sought. In the meantime there was access for visitors with mobility problems via the Mews entrance at the back of the building but it was recognised that this was suboptimal.

## 14. Review of the Meeting

- 14.1 Council expressed disappointment that the Corporate Strategy paper which requested important decisions had been circulated less than seven days before the meeting. There had been good discussion given the circumstances.

## 15. Date of next meeting

- 15.1 The next meeting would be held on 30 May 2019 in Cardiff.

**ACTION: The planned itinerary to be circulated to Council as soon as possible, once approved by the Chair.**

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 12pm.

**Name of Chair:**

William Moyes

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