

The report of the Finance and Performance Committee notes ongoing performance issues in the registration team and that assurances were sought on the steps that were being taken to mitigate the concerns. Please could the Council elaborate on these issues, as there appear to be significant delays to the processing of registration applications, restoration applications and CPD assessments (currently, mostly for DCPs, but some dentists are also affected). In some cases, individuals have waited in excess of 4 months to be included in the register (for applications that did not necessitate additional queries or documentation). Such delays affect the livelihood of the individuals, the mental wellbeing of the individuals and their colleagues, and the provision of patient care at a time when access to dentistry is a significant problem. With the renewal of dentists' registration currently ongoing, there are on average 35-50 dentists each year whose payment fails to go through, and who then have to apply for restoration. What is the GDC doing to ensure that any dentists in this situation will not be caught up in such delays having to wait for several months to be restored to the register, as the complete loss of livelihood, the stress this situation causes at the time when they might be chasing NHS UDAs, and the effects on their teams and their patients is clearly disproportionate to a human error that can so easily be rectified by making a payment?