

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
General Dental Council
held at 10:00am on Thursday 19 March 2020
in Closed Session
via Teleconference**

Council Members present:

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

Executive in attendance:

Ian Brack Chief Executive and Registrar
Gurvinder Soomal Executive Director, Registration and Corporate Resources
Lisa Marie Williams Executive Director, Legal and Governance
Sarah Keyes Executive Director, Organisational Development
Stefan Czerniawski Executive Director, Strategy

Staff in attendance:

Colin MacKenzie Interim Head of Communications and Engagement
John Cullinane Head of Adjudications
Katie Spears Head of Governance (Secretary)
Rebecca Ledwidge Incoming Secretariat Manager

PART ONE – PRELIMINARY ITEMS

1. Opening remarks and apologies for absence

- 1.1. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting that was held via teleconference due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Apologies for absence were received from Tom Scott, Executive Director, Fitness to Practise.

2. Declarations of interest

- 2.1. In relation to the items that had been circulated to Council members for comment via correspondence, the following interests were declared:

- 2.1.1. All staff declared an interest in the Estates item and the Pensions item.
- 2.1.2. The Chair of Council and the Chief Executive declared an interest in the item on appraisals and objectives.
- 2.1.3. All Council Members declared an interest in relation to the Council Members and Associates expenses policy.
- 2.1.4. All EMT members and Council Members declared an interest in the Annual Report on Declarations of Interest and
- 2.1.5. Registrant Council Members declared an interest in the refunds policy.

3. Approval of minutes of the previous meetings

- 3.1. The Council **noted** that the following sets of minutes had been approved via correspondence:
 - 3.1.1. The full minutes of the closed Council meeting held on 16 January 2020.
 - 3.1.2. The abbreviated minutes of the closed Council meeting on 16 January 2020. These were **approved** for publication.
 - 3.1.3. The full minutes of the public Council meeting held on 16 January 2020.

4. Matters arising from the Closed Council meeting held on 4 December and rolling actions list

- 4.1. The Council **noted** the actions list and **approved** the completion of actions where they were marked as 'suggested complete' and asked that the action which referred to the 'Interim' Executive Director, Strategy be updated to remove the reference to 'Interim'.

5. Decisions log

- 5.1. The Council **noted** that the minutes had been approved between meetings and the Council had approved the making of the EU Exit regulations, as outlined in the Decisions log.

PART TWO – ITEMS FOR DECISION AND DISCUSSION

6. Chief Executive's Report

- 6.1. The Chief Executive provided the Council with an update on the following topics:
 - 6.1.1. Regulatory reform – the legislative reform team at the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) had been called upon to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic. This would inevitably slow down progress in this area.
 - 6.1.2. Remote orthodontics – the Executive Director, Strategy would circulate an update on this topic for the Council to comment on via correspondence.
- 6.2. In relation to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Council **discussed** the ongoing operational management of the organisation during the pandemic, the work that was underway to communicate with the profession and patients and future planning.
- 6.3. The Council **noted** the update.

7. Updates from Committee Chairs

- 7.1. The Chairs of the sub-Committees of the Council noted that they would provide their updates via correspondence and take any comments from Council in the same way.

8. Substantive Comments on Items via Circulation

- 8.1. Due to the ongoing pandemic in relation to COVID-19, the substantive agenda items had been circulated to the Council for comment and approval via correspondence. Comments

were sought by 23 March 2020 and would be shared with authors to action. Any approvals would be noted by the Council in its next meeting.

9. Any Other Business

- 9.1. The Chair agreed that the usual blog post would be provided following the Council meeting, and this would be timed following the closing date for comments on the papers.

10. Review of the meeting

- 10.1. The Council noted that the team would be happy to take comments on the meeting and that there was work underway to explore alternative options for hosting meetings remotely.
- 10.2. There being no further business, the meeting ended at 11:05am.

Date of next meeting: 2-3 June 2020 (remote)

Name of Chair: William Moyes

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