

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
General Dental Council
held at 12:45pm on Friday 24 February 2023
in Closed Session at 37 Wimpole Street, London**

Council Members present:

Lord Harris	Chair
Terry Babbs	
Ilona Blue	
Donald Burden	
Anne Heal	
Angie Heilmann MBE	
Sheila Kumar	
Mike Lewis	
Caroline Logan	
Simon Morrow	
Laura Simons (via MS Teams)	

Executive Directors in attendance:

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

Staff and Others in attendance:

Clare Callan	Associate Director, FtP Case Progression
Sam Clements	Head of Risk Management and Internal Audit (item 9 only)
Toby Ganley	Head of Right Touch Regulation (item 8 only)
Angela Harding	Associate Director, People and Organisational Development (as observer)
Rebecca Ledwidge	Deputy Head of Governance
Joanne Rewcastle	Associate Director, Communications and Engagement
Katie Spears	Head of Governance (Secretary)

Apologies

John Cullinane	Executive Director, Fitness to Practise
Jeyanthi John	

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted apologies from John Cullinane and Jeyanthi John.

2. Declaration of interests

- 2.1 No declarations of interest were made.

3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

- 3.1 The full minutes of the closed meeting held on 16 December 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.

5. Decisions Log

- 5.1 There were no decisions of the Council to report.

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

- 6.1 The minutes of the following non-statutory Committees were **noted** by the Council:
- a. The Statutory Panellists Assurance Committee (SPC) meeting of 8 December 2022.
 - b. The Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) meeting of 24 January 2023.
 - c. The Remuneration and Nomination Committee (RemNom) meeting of 2 February 2023.
- 6.2 The minutes of the meeting of the Finance and Performance Committee (FPC) on 16 February 2023 would be circulated following the Council meeting.

7. Chief Executive's Report

- 7.1 The Chief Executive provided an update on the following topics: the dental workforce, recent stakeholder engagements, international registration and Executive Management Team (EMT) development.
- 7.2 The Council **noted** the updates.
- The Head of Right Touch Regulation joined the meeting.

8. Professional Standards Authority (PSA) Report on the GDC's Performance for 2021-2022

- 8.1 The Head of Right Touch Regulation presented the paper on the organisational response to the PSA report on the GDC's performance for 2021-2022. The Council heard that the PSA had introduced three yearly cycles of performance review and this first year was a full review. The subsequent two years would be lighter touch.
- 8.2 The Council heard that the organisation had met 16 of the 18 Standards, but that Standards 11 (Registration timeliness) and 15 (Fitness to Practise timeliness) had not been achieved. The GDC considered that these decisions were fair and was already working to tackle the areas for improvement in these areas.

8.3 The Council **discussed** the report and the approach to an organisational response.

8.4 The Council **agreed** that the organisation should provide a formal response to the PSA's report, reiterate its commitment to improvement in relevant areas and address any residual areas of concern in respect of the performance assessment.

The Head of Right Touch Regulation 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 paper on strategic risk management to the Council.

9.2 The Council was asked to discuss and approve the proposed approach to the ownership of the Strategic Risk Register (SRR), the governance arrangements surrounding GDC risk management, the presentation of the risk appetite matrix. The Council was asked to then set its strategic risk appetite for 2023.

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

10. Any Other Business

10.1 There was no other business, and the meeting was closed at 14:45pm.