

Council oversight of effective performance

Preamble

The Council's role is to set the direction of the GDC in line with its mission and purpose; to ensure systems are in place to enable it to monitor performance and to hold the Executive to account; and to ensure probity. The Council has determined that it can most effectively carry out its functions by delegating certain matters. The General Dental Council (Delegation of Functions) Rules 2020 set out which functions are delegated, and to whom, and which remain with the Council. The latter include:

- Approval of strategy
- Statutory rule making
- Approval of the annual business plan and budget
- Approval of the annual report and accounts and any report required to be laid before the Parliaments

The Council determines the outcomes and outputs of the GDC in support of its purpose and values. The means by which those outcomes and outputs are achieved is a matter for the Chief Executive and staff. The Chief Executive is accountable to the Council for this.

The Council sets out in detail its requirements of the Chief Executive in the contract of employment and role profile. The process by which the Council holds the Chief Executive accountable is that:

1. The Chief Executive will provide regular management reports to the Council, and will ensure that appropriate reports are provided to committees regarding matters within their remits
2. The Council may question the Chief Executive on any matter which he or she undertakes on behalf of the GDC.

The Chief Executive is the Registrar and is customarily appointed by the Privy Council to fulfil the role of Accounting Officer (by virtue of the Chief Executive appointment) and appoints a member of staff as Secretary to the Council.

This document makes supplemental provision in respect of the delegation or reservation of activities which do not derive directly from the Dentists Act 1984. It also sets out how the Council will ensure effective performance of the delegated functions.

Decisions reserved to the Council

Approval of the reserves policy

Decisions delegated to the Chief Executive

Minor amendments to the procurement policy and credit control policy

How the Council will ensure effective performance

Review performance

- C1. Setting the organisation's performance measures and targets and ensuring that the targets are met by the Executive Management Team
- C2. Overseeing the organisation's operations ensuring competent and prudent management and planning and receiving regular performance reports

- C3. Ensuring that the appropriate governance, risk management and internal controls are in place
- C4. Ensuring that the Council is adequately resourced to achieve its aims, including the strategic oversight of the efficient use of human resources
- C5. Reviewing reports on delegated authority used and receiving reports from the Executive and Committees of the Council, including the Appointments Committee
- C6. Agreeing the Strategic Risk Appetite

Corporate Governance

- C7. Approval of the scheme of delegation
- C8. Approval of probity policies
- C9. Approval of the financial delegations of the GDC
- C10. Undertaking a formal and rigorous annual review of its own performance and in line with the Council Member Appraisal process a review of its committees and individual members against its objectives
- C11. Ensuring that Council and committee members are appropriately trained