

The General Dental Council (Delegation of Functions) Rules 2026

The General Dental Council make the following rules in exercise of the powers conferred by section 50C(6) of and paragraph 8(1)(b) of Schedule 1 to the Dentists Act 1984¹.

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1. These Rules may be cited as the General Dental Council (Delegation of Functions) Rules 2026 and shall come into force on [DATE]

2. In these Rules-

“Act” means the Dentists Act 1984; and

“Council” means the General Dental Council as established by section 1 of the Dentists Act 1984.

Delegation of Functions

3. Subject to Rules 4 and 5, the Council delegates its functions under the Act to officers of the Council.
4. The functions in Schedule 1 are reserved to the Council.
5. The functions in Schedule 2 are delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, or their nominated deputy.
6. The functions in Schedule 3 are delegated to the Registrar, or their nominated deputy.
7. *When making the decisions in Schedule 1, the Council shall take account of any relevant advice or recommendations provided by relevant Committees, the Chief Executive Officer, and/or Registrar.*

Review

8. These Rules shall be reviewed by the Council at intervals of no more than 2 years.

¹ 1984 c.24; section 50C was inserted and paragraph 8(1)(b) of Schedule 1 amended by, S.I. 2005/2011

Transitional and savings provisions

9. The General Dental Council (Delegation of Functions) Rules 2020 are revoked.

10. Nothing in these Rules shall affect the validity of any decision taken by the Council or on its behalf before the coming into force date.

Given under the official seal of the General Dental Council this [DATE]

In the absence of the seal, I confirm this is the decision of the Council.

Dr Helen Phillips, Chair of Council

Tom Whiting, Registrar and Chief Executive Officer

Schedule 1 – Functions reserved to the Council

1. The following functions are reserved to the Council –

<i>Function</i>	<i>Statutory reference</i>
Publication annually of a report on exercise of Council functions, a statistical report on arrangements for protection of the public and a strategic business plan	Section 2B(1)
Keep and prepare annual statement of accounts	Section 2C(1)
Appointment of external auditors	Section 2C(2)
Appointment of Registrar	Section 14(2)
Determination of the Registrar's salary	Section 14(3)
Direct Registrar as to their duties in relation to the Register	Section 14(4)
Consultation on changes to English language guidance	Sections 15A(9) and 36CA(12)
Direct Registrar as to the details and form of the public register	Section 22(1) and 36G(1)
Act as Respondent to a statutory appeal	Section 29(4) and section 36S(7)
Set standards of proficiency, education and training for professions complementary to dentistry	Section 36D(1)
Approve qualifications for professions complementary to dentistry	Section 36D(2)
Undertake a consultation before making any changes to standards guidance	Sections 26B(5) and 36M(5)
Pay Council and Committee members fees, allowances and expenses	Schedule 1, paras 6(2), 6(2A), 7(1) and 7(2)

Schedule 2 – Functions delegated to the Chief Executive Officer

1. The following functions are delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, or their nominated deputy –
 - a. Incur expenditure for the investigation and resolution of dental complaints (section 2D of the Act).

Schedule 3 – Functions delegated to the Registrar

1. The following functions are delegated to the Registrar, or their nominated deputy –
 - a. Make a representation to the Privy Council if a course of study or examinations in dentistry does not provide the requisite knowledge and skills (section 11(1) of the Act)
 - b. Make a representation to the Privy Council if a dental authority has tried to impose conditions on a candidate (section 12(1) of the Act).
 - c. Designate a diploma as an appropriate European Diploma and keep and publish a list of such designated diplomas (section 15(2ZB) of the Act)