

News and updates

A view from the Chair: sharing learning from equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI), understanding the working patterns of dental care professionals (DCPs), and it's close to your last chance to respond to our corporate strategy proposals

The GDC's Chair, Lord Toby Harris, welcomes the inclusion of a case study from the GDC on EDI in the Professional Standards Authority's good practice guidance. He also highlights his championing of working patterns data for DCPs to support the sector to better understand the workforce and improve access to services.

[View from the Chair](#)

(The piece below was sent to registered dental care professionals only.)

CPD deadline for DCPs: 28 August

You still have four weeks to make your CPD statement before the deadline of 28 August. It's important that you complete your annual renewal, as your registration as a dental professional may be at risk if you do not complete it in time.

Key things to note about your CPD:

- Any CPD you do on or after 1 August will count towards the following CPD year.
- You don't have to complete CPD hours every year, but you do have to make a statement and do at least 10 CPD hours in every two-year period.
- If you've not completed any CPD hours during the year, record zero hours when you make your statement and make sure you do enough CPD (at least 10 hours) in the following year to meet the minimum requirements.
- Even if you're in the first year of a new CPD cycle, you must make sure you have completed at least 10 hours of verifiable CPD over the last two years.

The working patterns survey remains, and we'd be grateful if you could complete it.

[Submit your CPD](#)



New Chair announced

We have announced the appointment of Dr Helen Phillips as our new Chair from 1 October 2025, following the completion of Lord Toby Harris's four-year term in September 2025.

Dr Phillips brings a wealth of senior experience across a 30-year career in sectors including insurance, legal, social care and further education.

Dr Phillips outlined her vision for upstream regulation and supporting the dental professions to remain competent and confident throughout their careers:

"My ambition is that dental professionals feel a sense of pride – never fear – in being regulated by a trusted, effective, proportionate regulator that embodies our values of being respectful, transparent, inclusive and purposeful."

Dr Phillips emphasised her commitment to working with the dental professions to address systemic challenges:

"We must work collaboratively with the dental sector to make meaningful progress in addressing health inequalities and the growing problem of equitable access to dental services for all."

Find out more on [Dr Helen Phillips' appointment as the new Chair.](#)

Annual Report and Accounts published

We have published our Annual Report and Accounts for 2024, showing a record registration performance and continued improvements to Fitness to Practise (FtP) processes.

Key developments in 2024 included enhanced workforce insights, improved access to the Overseas Registration Examination, FtP improvements and sector leadership. The report highlights the GDC's desire to improve our digital capability and improve the experience for you accessing online services such as registration and renewal.

Corporate strategy consultation: Modernising registration and renewal

Our proposed corporate strategy includes plans to modernise our processes and digital services to improve efficiency and user experience, and work to digitise our registration and renewal services for users is already underway. You can expect to see changes that make it easier to access services and manage your registration in early 2026. We will provide further updates and guidance to help you prepare over the coming months.

We plan to invest early for long term gain. Factored into our proposed future expenditure plans are the savings we expect to make from improving registration and renewal services and better use of our current estate. We are also proposing that we deliver an additional 7% of efficiency savings over the next five years, by improving and challenging the way we work.

You can provide your feedback on our proposed modernisation and expenditure plans by responding to the consultation on our next corporate strategy. The deadline for responses is midnight on Thursday 21 August.

Find out more about our [proposed corporate strategy](#).

(The piece above was replaced with the one below for the newsletter issued to stakeholder organisations)

Corporate strategy consultation: Incorporating equality, diversity and inclusion

Our next corporate strategy includes proposals to incorporate our goals for promoting EDI across all aspects of our work. We paved the way last year with our bridging strategy and are now consulting on our plans for the next three years.

Significant effort has gone into understanding the diverse needs of dental professionals and students over the past few years, but there is more to do to ensure our standards, systems and processes can meet the needs of everyone. More recent research has highlighted the need to promote sexual safety in dental workplaces, and our proposed strategy looks to establish a guidance framework that supports safe and inclusive workplaces.

The quality and scale of our EDI data in fitness to practise is improving, and our proposed strategic plans include analysing that data to explore and identify EDI related correlations and any changes over time. Our proposed plans also include hearing directly from fitness to practise participants to support mitigation of any potential bias and/or discrimination.

You can provide your feedback on our proposed plans to [promote equality, diversity and inclusion](#) by responding to the consultation on our next corporate strategy. The deadline for responses is midnight on Thursday 21 August.

Find out more about our [proposed corporate strategy](#).



Registrar's visit to Northern Ireland

Our Chief Executive, Tom Whiting, spent two days in Northern Ireland visiting dental professionals from across the sector. As part of his visit he met Mike Nesbitt, Minister of Health for Northern Ireland and Caroline Lappin, Chief Dental Officer for Northern Ireland.

He also visited the Northern Ireland Medical & Dental Training Agency team and two dental practices in Belfast. These included the Curran Oral Surgery practice to hear about the important oral surgery treatment provided to patients by this referral only clinic, and Bupa dentalcare on Belmont Road where he met the team

and heard about the experiences of foundation dentists in their first year in practice.

There was also a roundtable discussion with people from across the dental profession on our proposed corporate strategy.

DCP working patterns analysis

We have published [new inferential analysis of the DCPs' working patterns](#) that builds on the DCP data we first released in October last year. The analysis shows how DCPs work across the UK, drawing on responses from 43,692 DCPs.

This is the first set of DCP data that combines working patterns, registration information and aggregated FtP data.

The reports provide:

- Insights into employment status.
- Where DCPs work.
- Treatment delivery (NHS v private).
- The number of hours DCPs spend delivering dental care.
- Whether DCPs work in clinical or non-clinical roles.
- Variations in the workforce across equality, diversity and inclusion characteristics.
- Any correlations between working patterns questions and the incidence of FtP cases at the aggregate level.

Read [the reports](#).

Recent news

[Research finds support for targeted remediation to improve patient safety](#)

[GDC consultation on our next corporate strategy](#)

[NHS dentistry contract: quality and payment reforms \(DHSC consultation\) \(England only\)](#)

Information and support

[Recording and submitting CPD](#)

[CPD myth-busting: Helping DCPs navigate their CPD requirements in 2025](#)

[Restoring your name to the register](#)

Helpful links

[eGDC](#)

[Dental Complaints Service](#)

[Dental Professionals Hearings Service](#)