

**Minutes of the Meeting of the  
General Dental Council  
held at 09:30am on Thursday 16 January 2020  
in Closed Session  
at the General Dental Council, 37 Wimpole Street, London, W1G 8DQ**

**Council Members present:**

William Moyes (Chair)  
Anne Heal  
Catherine Brady  
Crispin Passmore  
Geraldine Campbell  
Jeyanthi John  
Kirstie Moons  
Margaret Kellett  
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  
Tom Scott Executive Director, FtP Transition

**Staff in attendance:**

Colin MacKenzie Interim Head of Communications and Engagement  
Katie Spears Interim Head of Governance (Secretary)  
Paula Woodward Pfister Interim Secretariat Manager

**PART ONE – PRELIMINARY ITEMS**

**1. Opening remarks and apologies for absence**

- 1.1. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies for absence were received from Caroline Logan and Sheila Kumar. The Chair noted thanks on behalf of the Council for the excellent work, led by the Executive Director, Registration and Corporate Resources and his team, on the re-fit of the Wimpole Street premises.

**2. Declarations of interest**

- 2.1. In relation to Item 9, Council Member reappointment, Crispin Passmore declared an interest and noted that he would leave the meeting for that item. It was noted that, had Sheila Kumar

and Caroline Logan been in attendance, they would have declared the same interest and would also have been asked to leave for the duration of that item.

### **3. Approval of minutes of the previous meetings**

- 3.1. The Council **noted** that the full minutes of the closed Council meeting held on 4 December 2019 had been approved via correspondence and a final version had been circulated to Council members on 7 January 2020.
- 3.2. The Council **approved** the abbreviated minutes from the closed Council meeting held on 4 December 2019 for publication.

### **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'.

### **5. Decisions log**

- 5.1. The Council **noted** that, beyond the approval of the minutes, there had been no other decisions taken in between meetings.

## **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 draft Professional Standards Authority (PSA) report on the GDC for 2018-2019.

### **7. Policy Statement on Maxillofacial Surgeons**

- 7.1. The Executive Director, Strategy presented the paper which set out the policy background in relation to the dual registration of oral and maxillofacial surgeons (OMFS), provided an update in relation to ongoing legal issues around the topic and asked the Council to note that the policy area remained under review.
- 7.2. The Council **discussed** the issue and requested that the Executive Director, Strategy bring the matter back to Council with an update, to enable the Council to reach a final policy position on this topic.

### **8. GDC Position on Remote Orthodontics**

- 8.1. The Executive Director, Strategy presented the paper that provided the Council with an updated position on the work that was underway to establish the legality and safety (or otherwise) of a business model using remote orthodontics or, more generally, tele-dentistry. The Council were asked to approve a position statement on the issue and to approve that the organisation should fully review the business model in question for legal and regulatory compliance.
- 8.2. The Council **discussed** the issue and requested that the matter be expedited and that the matter be brought back to Council in Q1 of 2020 with an update and revised position statement.

## 9. Council Member Reappointment – Reviewing Performance Appraisals

- 9.1. Crispin Passmore declared an interest in this item and left the meeting for its duration.
- 9.2. The Chair of Council presented the paper and accompanying confidential reports around the reappointment of three Council members.
- 9.3. The Council approved the proposals for reappointment in line with the paper and noted the need to stagger the terms to ensure that the cycle of appointment and reappointment minimised disruption to the Council.

**Action: Interim Head of Governance to share the Council's recommendations for reappointment with the Privy Council and submit the relevant procedural documents to the PSA.**

## 10. Annual Reporting – Significant Litigation Report

- 10.1. The Council **discussed** and **noted** the significant litigation annual report which was heard in the closed session as it contained legally privileged information.

## 11. Any Other Business

- 11.1. The Council heard that the Interim Head of Communications and Engagement would shortly circulate a note, capturing the output of the Publications strategy discussions from the Council workshop in late 2019, for comment by the Council.

## 12. Review of the meeting

- 12.1. The Council noted that the papers for this meeting were much better, and shorter, and that the paper template that had been updated was likely to have influenced this improvement. The Council asked for thought to be given as to how best any relevant decision trail might be highlighted in future papers, without increasing their length. The Council also discussed that certain items had run on longer in discussion than had been anticipated but that they were useful, forward-looking strategic discussions.
- 12.2. There being no further business, the meeting ended at 10:55am

**Date of next meeting:** 18-19 March 2020 (Birmingham)

**Name of Chair:** William Moyes