

## Dental Council Meeting Summary of Decisions – 3 October 2011

### **Health Workforce New Zealand (HWNZ) Discussion Document regarding Consolidation Proposal**

The collaborative initiative of the Group 5 project, (Dental Council, Pharmacy Council, Physiotherapy Board, Medical Council and Nursing Council) was endorsed by Council in response to the HWNZ Secretariat Consolidation Proposal discussion document. Phase One of the project, the delivery of a consolidated business case by the group of five regulatory authorities, to HWNZ would be considered by Council at its December meeting.

### **Ministry of Health (MOH) - Health Workforce New Zealand (HWNZ) Report back to Cabinet Social Policy Committee re Proposed Changes to the Health Regulatory Authorities**

Council was concerned that the information presented to cabinet in the – MOH-HWNZ report-back to Cabinet did not accurately reflect the submissions provided by the RA's and had incorrectly quoted Dental Council as having 14 members rather than the existing 10 members. Council resolved to notify the Minister of Health of any factual errors contained within the MOH-HWNZ report-back to Cabinet - 3 August 2011 in relation to the Dental Council's submission, with copies being sent to the Associate Minister of Health and Health Workforce New Zealand.

### **Policy on the Approval of Courses to Equip Registered Oral Health Practitioners to Remove Exclusions from their Scope of Practice**

Council reconsidered its policy on the *Approval of Courses to Equip Registered Oral Health Practitioners to Remove Exclusions from their Scope of Practice* and approved some minor changes, but no principle changes to the approval process were made.

This decision, including the revised policy and gazetted fees will to be communicated to all New Zealand educational institutions with current accredited primary qualifications programmes.

### **Competency Policy - Changes for New Governance Structure**

Changes to the competence policy: *Policy on Competence, Competence Review and Risk of Harm* were approved by Council to align it with the governance change, which abolished the Professional Boards, effective 5 August 2011.

### **New Zealand Association of Orthodontists (NZAO) Certificate of Orthodontic Assisting programme - "Use of Handpiece" Module**

Dr Judith Hey and A/Prof Mark Gussy, the NZAO accreditation review team members will be approached to review the "Use of handpiece" module developed and submitted by NZAO, in response to the previous accreditation condition, and to make a recommendation to Council on whether the condition can be removed from the accreditation status of the NZAO Certificate of Orthodontic Assisting programme.

### **Dentists Practising without an Annual Practising Certificate (APC)**

Council approved the formation of a Professional Conduct Committee to address the issue of dentists practising without an APC by the expiry date of 30 September 2011.