

Summary of Decisions

From the Dental Council meeting – 3 November 2014

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The Dental Council is the statutory body constituted under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (The Act) to maintain the health and safety of members of the public by providing mechanisms to ensure that health practitioners are competent and fit to practise. Council endeavours to keep its key stakeholders up to date with key decisions.

This document is a summary of Council's decisions from the meeting held in November 2014.

Transmissible Major Viral Infections Code of Practice – draft consultation

Council approved the consultation document on the proposed Transmissible Major Viral Infections Code of Practice to be issued to stakeholders in November 2014, subject to a minor amendment.

Cross Infection Working Group Appointments

Council appointed the following members to the Cross Infection Working Group:

- Andrew Gray (Chair)
- Shelagh Thomas - subject-matter expert public dental practice environment
- Megan Sharpe - subject-matter expert private dental practice environment
- Michael Holdaway - dentist
- Sharon Boutell - dental hygienist
- Diane Pevreal - dental therapist
- Brent Norton - clinical dental technician.

Standards Framework for Oral Health Practitioners – consultation submissions

The Council issued a consultation document on 1 August 2014 on its proposed *Standards Framework for Oral Health Practitioners*. The consultation closed on 3 November 2014. The Council noted a total of 22 submissions was received, and that the majority of submitters were of the view that the proposed Standards Framework did not cause major concern; did not require further clarification or guidance; and nothing essential was missing from the proposed Standards. The Council also noted the principle areas of concerns raised, and the substantial nature of proposed changes suggested.

Council agreed to the following approach in considering the submissions:

- 1) The Secretariat would review all the consultation responses and make recommended changes to the Standards Framework, where deemed appropriate, for detailed consideration by the Council at its December 2014 meeting.
- 2) Following consideration of the submissions, the Secretariat would further refine the proposed strategy for engaging with key stakeholders on an updated draft Standards Framework, for consideration at its next meeting.

- 3) In the interim, a letter would be issued to all major stakeholders advising the outcome of Council's consideration at this meeting, advising them that a further communication would follow Council's December meeting outlining the next steps and anticipated timeframes.

Budget 2015-2016

Council agreed to consult on the APC fees and disciplinary levies for dentists/dental specialists in May 2015 for the 2015/16 recertification year and not as part of the December annual budget consultation, to allow for a more accurate financial position to be determined at the end of financial year-end.

Council approved the 2015/16 Budgets (including capital expenditure), APC fees and levies for dental hygienists, dental therapists, clinical dental technicians, dental technicians, orthodontic auxiliaries; revised retention; and Certificate of Good Standing fees; and all other fees not subject to change, to go to consultation with stakeholders. The consultation document will be considered at the December 2014 meeting.