

Summary of Decisions

From the Dental Council meeting – 4 September 2017

Level 11
Kordia House
109-125 Willis Street
Wellington 6011
New Zealand

PO Box 10-448
Wellington 6143
New Zealand

Tel: +64 4 499 4820
Fax: +64 4 499 1668
inquiries@dcnz.org.nz

www.dcnz.org.nz

The Dental Council (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 meetings held on 4 September 2017.

Consultation on International Society of Dental Regulators (ISDR) dentist accreditation principles

The ISDR are currently consulting on its proposed international dentist accreditation principles and dentist competencies, the endorsement process and implementation. Accordingly, Council approved the submission in response to the ISDR consultation.

Consultation – proposed registration application fees

There is currently a two-step process for some registration applications. This comprises an assessment of eligibility as the first step, followed by a registration application process if the eligibility assessment was successful. This two-step process entails two separate fees.

The following registration applicants currently have an assessment of eligibility as part of their registration process:

- Overseas applicants with prescribed qualifications
- Applicants with non-prescribed qualifications.

With the introduction of the new integrated IT platform, registration applications will be available online once the system goes live. Under the new online registration application process, practitioners will only complete one application form. This will provide a more streamlined user experience for applicants, and create greater efficiencies in the processing of applications.

To facilitate this, Council considered a proposed single non-refundable registration application fee per application type—the sum of the current *application for assessment of eligibility fee* and the *application for registration fee*.

Overall Council agreed to the proposed fees, but recommended that the consultation document clearly states that it was not an increase in the currently gazetted fees, but a consolidation of the two fees to support the new integrated IT system.

Proposed MOU with the Ministry of Health

A draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was received from the Ministry of Health for Council's consideration. The purpose of the MOU was for Council to provide MOH with data on oral health practitioners to enable statistical analysis for workforce planning.

Council expressed some operational concerns in relation to the type of data requested by MOH, for example the availability of the data from 2011 was also not achievable, due to permission from practitioners was only granted since April 2015.

The other concern raised was the current wording of the clause relating to Confidentiality and unauthorised disclosure.

Overall, Council agreed in principle to further pursue the MOU between MOH on the sharing of workforce data, subject to further consideration of the areas of concern raised and discussed with MOH.

The final draft MOU will be presented to the Council before signing.

[University of Otago building report](#)

Council accepted the ADC/DC(NZ) Accreditation Committee's recommendation from its 18 August 2017 meeting, that there were no current issues that put the accredited Otago educational programmes at risk of not continuing to meet the accreditation standards.

[AUT Monitoring Report – 1 January 30 June 2017](#)

Council accepted the ADC/DC(NZ) Accreditation Committee's recommendation to the DC(NZ) that there were no issues raised in the monitoring report that could put the AUT BHS (oral health) programme at risk of not continuing to meet the accreditation standards. Council also agreed that the ongoing monitoring reports would not be required, and that the standard annual report would be sufficient.