



COMPLETE
 [Redacted text]

PAGE 2: Information about the person or organisation completing this submission survey

Q1: This submission was completed by:

Name	Ian HAMILTON
Company/organisation	[Redacted]
City/town	[Redacted]
Email address	[Redacted]

Q2: Are you making this submission survey as a registered practitioner

Q3: Please tell us which part of the sector your submission survey represents a registered dentist or dental specialist

PAGE 3: General question about recertification

Q4: Do you think the Dental Council needs to make changes to its current recertification framework?

Yes - but only minor changes,
 Please give your reasons:
 The present CPD regime bears no relation to my competence as a dentist. In nearly 50 years practice I have had 2 minor complaints both of which were dismissed. The practioners who have consistent complaints made against them by patients are the ones the Council should concentrate on helping.

PAGE 4: Area for change one: public assurance

Q5: Each of the seven statements below are equally important components of good oral health care. We want to identify where there are gaps or weaknesses in the way our oral health practitioners serve the public. Please rank the components from 1-7, with one being the component you think needs the most improvement and seven being the component you think needs the least improvement:

- Patients are confident their practitioner will not harm them 1
- Patients know how to complain about treatment they have received from their practitioner 5

Q6: Do you think the Dental Council needs to equip patients and the public to recognise poor practise?

No,

Please give your reasons:
Most patients are discriminating enough to know when their treatment has been satisfactory. If they are unhappy with the treatment they will say so directly to the dentist. If the explanation from the dentist is unsatisfactory the present complaint procedure is clear and works well to achieve resolution.

PAGE 5: Area for change two: right-touch risk-based regulation

Q7: Do you feel you have adequate information about the Dental Council's approach to regulation?

Yes

Q8: A risk pyramid illustrates the connection between the desired actions and/or behaviours of a practitioner and the differing level of responses a regulator can use to encourage and/or achieve the desired action and/or behaviour. Do you think the Dental Council should develop a risk pyramid/matrix to explain the types and levels of risk and corresponding regulatory responses?

No,

Please give your reasons:
A risk pyramid may help a bureaucrat to make a decision but most people don't want complication which they find unhelpful

PAGE 6: Area for change three: risk identification

Q9: Which (if any) of these tools and mechanisms do you think the Dental Council should be using to identify and manage risk?

Supervision, counselling and/or mentoring

Q10: Are you aware of any other tools or mechanisms the Dental Council should be using to identify and manage risk?

No

Q11: Do you think any of these risk tools or mechanisms are more effective than others?

Yes,

Please give your reasons:
Supervision and direct intervention may help an incompetent or inexperienced practitioner to improve

PAGE 7: Area for change four: early intervention

Q12: Do you think the Dental Council should explore the use of risk analysis and risk-profiling to identify poor practise sooner?

No,

Please give your reasons:
Poor dentists are obvious to other dentists and often to their patients. Profiling them is simply putting off making a decision about them

PAGE 8: Area for change five: compliance

Q13: Do you think the Dental Council should explore the use of incentives to encourage practitioner compliance?

No,

Please give your reasons:
What incentive can you give to an incompetent dentist to improve other than a regulatory threat.

Q14: What do you think the Dental Council could do differently to encourage practitioner compliance with its recertification requirements? Please explain:

Make CPD requirements simpler and less costly to most dentists who comply with regulations and attract no complaints and concentrate on those who don't

PAGE 9: Area for change six: ongoing education and learning opportunities

Q15: Do you think the Dental Council should change its current amount of prescribed hours and peer activities?

Yes - the hours should be decreased,

Please tell us what your preferred increase/decrease in hours is and why:
As it is 20 hours of CPD courses cost at least \$50 per hour sometimes much more. It seldom bears any direct relation to how one practices.

Q16: Do you think the Dental Council should change the current length of its education and learning opportunities (CPD) cycle?

No - the cycle length is about right,

Please tell us what your preferred increase/decrease in cycle is and why:
This is an imposition on dentists by the Council to attempt to show that is is doing something to keep dentists up to date. Before this was imposed most dentists attended courses they thought they might learn something from. Now attendance at any course relevant or not is simply to gain required hours.

Q17: Please rank the following statements (with one being most important and eight being least important) according to the following question: Which actions should the Dental Council prioritise when considering its approach to ongoing education and learning opportunities?

Permitting practitioners to set their own hours of education and learning opportunities and quantity of peer activities 8

Setting some mandatory education and learning opportunities based on the Dental Council's Practice Standards 1

Q18: Do you think the Dental Council needs to make any other changes or improvements to the ongoing education and learning process?

Yes - it needs to make substantive changes or improvements

Please tell us what other changes or improvements should be made and why:
It needs to lessen the burden of regulation on most dentists an concentrate on improving the dentists who cause complaints due to their incompetence

PAGE 10: Final thoughts and comments

Q19: Do you have any other comments, suggestions or information you want to share with the Dental Council about recertification?

No