

Dental Council of New Zealand Meeting Summary of Decisions - 4 December 2008

The Chief Executive Report – Secretariat Change

The Council approved the new secretariat structure and the full estimated financial cost of the change which is to be spread across two financial years.

The timeline for the implementation of the new structure would commence at the beginning of December and it was expected to have the new structure and staff in place by mid to late February 2009.

Professional Associations would receive written communication regarding the changes prior to Christmas.

Online Recertification Project Business Case

The Council agreed to defer the Online Recertification project until 2010/11 financial year as the implementation of the new structure needed to be completed before any new system development and implementation could be considered.

Compliance with the Controller and Auditor General – Good Practice Guide for Charging Fees for the Public Sector Goods and Services – June 2008

The Council gave approval to consult with each registered practitioner before the Annual Practising Fee is gazetted each year. In order to properly consult, cost allocation tables would be provided. This consultation, together with budget consultation would be through the Council newsletter. Additionally the consultation process for the APC fees could be undertaken by a notice on the website to ensure it complies with good practice.

Replacement of Lay member for the Dental Therapist Board

One of the lay members from the Dental Therapist Board was replaced by a Council approved lay member. This was to be effective immediately.

Council Appointments

Council resolved that the merged Dental Hygiene and Dental Therapy Board would include:

- four practitioners (two dental hygienists, two dental therapists with one practitioner having dual clinical and educational skills).
- an orthodontist auxiliary
- one lay person

Dental Hygienist Board Recommendation for Detailed Scope of Practice for Orthodontic Auxiliary Practice

The Council resolved to approve the proposed detailed Scope of Practice for Orthodontic Auxiliary Practice, subject to some amendments and to inform the NZAO and NZDA accordingly.

Compliance with Office of the Auditor-General Guidelines

The Council noted that DCNZ Consultation Guidelines did not include budget and fee consultation, which is required under the OAG Guidelines. The Council resolved that the CEO would act to ensure that the Council's consultation complied with the guidelines of the OAG and Treasury, particularly in relationship to budget and fees.

English Language Requirements for Registration

Council agreed to approve the proposed changes to the English Language requirements for registration and that the registration entry level requirements be circulated. The Council advised the Secretariat of further required changes to the draft updated English Language Policy for entry into the examination process. The Registrar was to process the updates to the various documents and circulate for approval.

Code of Practice on Professional Relationships associated with Dental Therapy

Council approved the revised Code of Practice on Professional Relationships with Dental Therapy subject to the agreed amendments.

Practice Guidelines for Cosmetic Surgery

Council agreed that any endorsement of the Practice Guidelines for Cosmetic Surgery by the Council would be as a "Statement" rather than a "Guideline". Council should consult more widely with interested parties and stakeholders prior to Council endorsement of the "Statement".

Accreditation of Orthodontic Auxiliary Training

Council discussed the potential review panel and approved of one experienced Hygienist / Educationalist, a practising orthodontist and resolved to address the issue of a third person for the review by circular resolution.

Gazetting Prescribed Qualifications for Dental Specialists, Dental Hygienists and Dental Therapists.

Council approved the new qualifications as listed in the gazette notice as prescribed qualifications with the notifications of these changes to be in the gazette.

Council Regulating Authorities and CORA Examinations

Council agreed that all CORA member authorities' examinations for dental technicians should be the CORA examination and be conducted by CORA Chief Examiner and the CORA executive would be notified of its decision.

Written Submission for Dental Technician Action Group (DTAG)

The Council considered the written submission from the Dental Technician Action Group (DTAG) and resolved that the Registrar would draft a response to the 15 points raised by DTAG and provide a response prior to the Christmas period.