Summary of Decisions
From the Dental Council meeting – 6 November 2017

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 meeting held on 6 November 2017.

The Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia (FFMOP) – accreditation

The Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia Fellowship of the Faculty of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology (RCPA FFMOP) programme's accreditation is scheduled for April 2018. Similar to the last review, a joint process is planned between the Dental Council and the Australian Dental Council.

The programme has two accredited sites - one in Sydney and one at the Dunedin School of Dentistry, laboratory facility. However, the programme has no current trainee or enrolments for 2018.

It was proposed that no New Zealand site visit be incorporated into the site visit programme for 2018. Given there were no enrolments in the programme, the rebuild at the dental school and to avoid incurring costs, Council agreed to accept the proposal. Council further noted that a monitoring condition could be part of the review outcome of the accreditation, and that a site visit would be required at the NZ site before any student can be placed at the training site.

Registration fee – consultation outcome

The current process for overseas applicants with prescribed qualifications and applicants with non-prescribed qualifications wanting to register comprise of an assessment of eligibility as the first step, followed by a registration application process if the eligibility assessment is successful. This two-step process involves two separate fees.

With the introduction of the new integrated IT platform, registration applications will be online once the new system goes live. The current two steps of this process will be a single process under the new IT system, and practitioners would only complete one application form.

To facilitate this, a single non-refundable registration application fee per application type was proposed – the sum of the current application for assessment of eligibility fee and the application for registration fee. There is no increase in the current gazette fees, as the proposed registration application fees consolidate the two fees.

During September 2017, the Council undertook a targeted consultation with key stakeholders (professional organisations, educational institutions, district health boards and government organisations). The key stakeholders were consulted on a proposed registration application fees:

	GST excl $	GST incl $
Overseas applicant with prescribed qualification		
Application for assessment of eligibility to be registered	698.43	803.19
Application for registration	465.61	535.45
Total proposed fee	**1,164.04**	**1,338.65**
Applicant with non-prescribed qualification		
Application for assessment of eligibility to be registered under section 15(2) of the Act	3,047.95	3,505.14
Application for registration	465.61	535.45
Total proposed fee	**3,513.56**	**4,040.59**
Applicant with non-prescribed specialist qualification		
Application for assessment of eligibility to be registered under section 15(2) of the Act	4,014.11	4,616.23
Application for registration	465.61	535.45
Total proposed fee	**4,479.72**	**5,151.68**

Three submissions were received and they were supportive of the proposal.

Following the consideration of the consultation responses, Council approved the proposed fees and they will be gazetted in January 2018, following the consideration and approval of the 2018/19 budget, APC fees and disciplinary levies, and other fees.