

Summary of Decisions

From the Dental Council meetings in November 2019

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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 in November 2019.

Regulatory principles

Council approved the regulatory principles – subject to minor wording amendments to some of the principles.

Proposed 2020/21 budget, APC fees and disciplinary levies and other fees

Council approved the proposed 2020/21 budget, fees and levies to be consulted on with all stakeholders and practitioners from November to January 2020.

Updated finance policies

The following financial policies were approved:

- Budget level of reserves policy
- Budgeting, fee setting and cost allocation
- Credit and debt management
- Disclosure of financial information (materiality)
- Expenditure decisions and probity
- Fees and payments
- Internal fraud
- Investment of funds
- Refund of New Zealand dental registration examination fees
- Risk management; and
- Procurement

Commencement of new recertification programme

In August 2019, Council agreed to extend the existing recertification programmes to December 2020 however there was no explicit decision about the implications for the new recertification programme. Having noted its statutory requirement to set recertification programmes under section 41 of the Act, Council considered all the options for the commencement of the new recertification programme.

In summary Council agreed that:

- the commencement of the new programme for oral health practitioners will be included in the final detailed design document, to be considered at the December 2019 meeting.
- the commencement of the new recertification programme would be communicated to all practitioners in February 2020.
- it will set the new recertification programme before 31 March 2020, in accordance with section 41 of the Act.