



Dentists Act 1984

1984 CHAPTER 24

PART I **U.K.**

THE GENERAL DENTAL COUNCIL

1 Constitution and general duties of the Council. **U.K.**

(1) There shall continue to be a body corporate known as the General Dental Council (in this Act referred to as “the Council”).

[^{F1}(2) The Council shall, when exercising their functions under this Act, have a general concern—

- (a) to promote high standards of education at all its stages in all aspects of dentistry; and
- (b) to promote high standards of professional conduct, performance and practice among persons registered under this Act.

(2A) The Council shall be constituted as provided by order of the Privy Council.

(2B) An order of the Privy Council made under subsection (2A) may contain such incidental, consequential, saving, transitional or supplementary provisions as appear to the Privy Council to be necessary or expedient.]

(3) Part I of Schedule 1 to this Act shall have effect in relation to the Council [^{F2}and, in particular, subsection (2A) above is subject to the provisions of that Part].

Textual Amendments

F1 S. 1(2)-(2B) substituted for s. 1(2)-(2C) (coming into force in accordance with art. 1(4)-(7) of the amending S.I. (see the London Gazette, issue nos. 57734, 57975, 58050 and 58769, dated respectively 19.8.2005, 5.6.2006, 21.7.2006 and 18.7.2008)) by [The Dentists Act 1984 \(Amendment\) Order 2005 \(S.I. 2005/2011\)](#), [art. 3](#) (with [Sch. 7](#)) (with transitional provisions in [S.I. 2006/1671](#))

F2 Words in s. 1(3) added (coming into force in accordance with art. 1(2) of the amending S.I.) by [S.I. 2001/3926](#), [art. 1](#), 3(b)

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2 Committees of the Council. **U.K.**

- [^{F3}(1) There shall continue to be committees of the Council known as—
- (a) the Professional Conduct Committee; and
 - (b) the Health Committee.
- (2) There shall also be established committees of the Council to be known as—
- (a) the Investigating Committee;
 - (b) the Professional Performance Committee;
 - (c) the Interim Orders Committee; and
 - (d) the Registration Appeals Committee.
- (3) In this Act, “Practice Committee” means the Professional Conduct Committee, the Health Committee or the Professional Performance Committee.]
- (5)
- [^{F4}(6) The committees of the Council mentioned in this section shall be constituted as provided by order of the Privy Council.
- (7) An order of the Privy Council made under subsection (6) ^{F5}... may contain such incidental, consequential, saving, transitional or supplementary provisions as appear to the Privy Council to be necessary or expedient.
- (8) Some or all of the members of the committees mentioned in this section may be persons who are not members of the Council.]

Textual Amendments

- F3** S. 2(1)-(3) substituted for s. 2(1)-(4A) (coming into force in accordance with art. 1(4)-(7) of the amending S.I. (see the London Gazette, issue nos. 57734, 57975, 58050 and 58769, dated respectively 19.8.2005, 5.6.2006, 21.7.2006 and 18.7.2008)) by [The Dentists Act 1984 \(Amendment\) Order 2005 \(S.I. 2005/2011\)](#), [art. 4\(a\)](#) (with [Sch. 7](#)) (with transitional provisions in [S.I. 2006/1671](#))
- F4** S. 2(6)-(8) inserted (coming into force in accordance with art. 1(2) of the amending S.I.) by [S.I. 2001/3926](#), [art. 6\(d\)](#)
- F5** Words in s. 2(7) omitted (coming into force in accordance with art. 1(4)-(7) of the amending S.I. (see the London Gazette, issue nos. 57734, 57975, 58050 and 58769, dated respectively 19.8.2005, 5.6.2006, 21.7.2006 and 18.7.2008)) by virtue of [The Dentists Act 1984 \(Amendment\) Order 2005 \(S.I. 2005/2011\)](#), [art. 4\(b\)](#) (with [Sch. 7](#)) (with transitional provisions in [S.I. 2006/1671](#))

[^{F6}2A. The Council’s duty to co-operate **U.K.**

- (1) In the exercise of their functions, the Council shall co-operate in so far as reasonably practicable with public authorities, and other bodies and persons, falling within subsection (2).
- (2) Public authorities, bodies and persons fall within this subsection if—
- (a) they are concerned with the employment (whether or not under a contract of service) of registered dentists or registered dental care professionals;
 - (b) they provide, assess or fund education or training for those who are, or seek to become, registered dentists or registered dental care professionals, or they propose to do so;

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- (c) they regulate services in the provision of which registered dentists or registered dental care professionals are engaged;
 - (d) they carry out activities in connection with the services provided by the professions regulated under this Act; or
 - (e) they—
 - (i) are responsible for regulating or co-ordinating the regulation of health or social care professions not regulated under this Act, or
 - (ii) carry out activities in connection with the services provided by those professions.
- (3) In carrying out their duty to co-operate under subsection (1), the Council shall have regard to any differing considerations in relation to the practice of dentistry which apply in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Textual Amendments

F6 Ss. 2A-2D inserted (coming into force in accordance with art. 1(4)-(7) of the amending S.I. (see the London Gazette, issue nos. 57734, 57975, 58050 and 58769, dated respectively 19.8.2005, 5.6.2006, 21.7.2006 and 18.7.2008)) by [The Dentists Act 1984 \(Amendment\) Order 2005 \(S.I. 2005/2011\)](#), [art. 5](#) (with [Sch. 7](#)) (with transitional provisions in [S.I. 2006/1671](#))

2B. Annual and other reports **U.K.**

- (1) The Council shall prepare a report for each calendar year on the exercise of their functions in that year.
- (2) The Council must submit each report prepared under subsection (1) to the Privy Council within the calendar year after the year to which the report relates.
- (3) The first report prepared under subsection (1) shall relate to the last complete calendar year before the commencement of this subsection.
- (4) The Privy Council shall, as soon as reasonably practicable after a report is submitted to it under subsection (2), lay a copy of that report before each House of Parliament and the Scottish Parliament.
- (5) The Council shall publish at least once in each calendar year a statistical report which indicates the efficiency and effectiveness of the arrangements they have put in place to protect the public from persons whose fitness to practise as a dentist or as a member of a profession complementary to dentistry is impaired, together with the Council's observations on the report.

Textual Amendments

F6 Ss. 2A-2D inserted (coming into force in accordance with art. 1(4)-(7) of the amending S.I. (see the London Gazette, issue nos. 57734, 57975, 58050 and 58769, dated respectively 19.8.2005, 5.6.2006, 21.7.2006 and 18.7.2008)) by [The Dentists Act 1984 \(Amendment\) Order 2005 \(S.I. 2005/2011\)](#), [art. 5](#) (with [Sch. 7](#)) (with transitional provisions in [S.I. 2006/1671](#))

2C. Accounts **U.K.**

- (1) The Council shall—

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- (a) keep accounts, and
 - (b) prepare a statement of accounts in respect of each calendar year,
 in such form as the Privy Council may determine in writing.
- (2) The Council shall appoint an auditor to audit each statement of accounts prepared in accordance with subsection (1)(b), and the auditor must prepare a report on each statement of accounts.
- (3) The auditor appointed must be eligible for appointment as a company auditor under section 25 of the Companies Act 1989 or article 28 of the Companies (Northern Ireland) Order 1990.
- (4) The Council shall, as soon as reasonably practicable after the end of each calendar year—
 - (a) publish the statement of accounts for that year, together with the auditor’s report on it; and
 - (b) send a copy of the statement of accounts and the report to the Privy Council and the Comptroller and Auditor General.
- (5) The Comptroller and Auditor General shall examine, certify and report on each statement of accounts received under subsection (4) and for these purposes may inspect accounts kept by the Council in accordance with subsection (1)(a).
- (6) The Comptroller and Auditor General shall send a copy of each report prepared by him under subsection (5) to the Council and the Privy Council.
- (7) The Privy Council shall, as soon as reasonably practicable after the end of each calendar year, lay before each House of Parliament and the Scottish Parliament a copy of—
 - (a) the statement of accounts for that year as certified by the Comptroller and Auditor General;
 - (b) the auditor’s report for that year; and
 - (c) the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for that year.

Textual Amendments

F6 Ss. 2A-2D inserted (coming into force in accordance with art. 1(4)-(7) of the amending S.I. (see the London Gazette, issue nos. 57734, 57975, 58050 and 58769, dated respectively 19.8.2005, 5.6.2006, 21.7.2006 and 18.7.2008)) by [The Dentists Act 1984 \(Amendment\) Order 2005 \(S.I. 2005/2011\)](#), [art. 5](#) (with [Sch. 7](#)) (with transitional provisions in [S.I. 2006/1671](#))

2D. Complaints **U.K.**

- (1) The Council may incur expenditure for the purposes of investigating and resolving dental complaints.
- (2) In this section “dental complaints” means complaints made by users of the services of registered dentists or the services of registered dental care professionals about—
 - (a) the dental services provided by a registered dentist, a registered dental care professional or a body corporate carrying on the business of dentistry; or
 - (b) the goods or materials provided to persons, or the facilities provided for persons, using those dental services.

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- (3) The Council may also incur expenditure for the purposes of assisting the parties to the dental complaint in reaching a satisfactory resolution of that complaint.]

Textual Amendments

- F6** Ss. 2A-2D inserted (coming into force in accordance with art. 1(4)-(7) of the amending S.I. (see the London Gazette, issue nos. 57734, 57975, 58050 and 58769, dated respectively 19.8.2005, 5.6.2006, 21.7.2006 and 18.7.2008)) by [The Dentists Act 1984 \(Amendment\) Order 2005 \(S.I. 2005/2011\)](#), [art. 5](#) (with [Sch. 7](#)) (with transitional provisions in [S.I. 2006/1671](#))

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