

**General  
Dental  
Council**



## **Appointment of Chair**

January 2025

*Saxton Bampfylde*



# Welcome from the Chair

I am delighted that you are interested in the role of Chair of the General Dental Council (GDC).

What we do matters. If you have the passion, breadth of view, and strategic and influencing skills, together with the personal values and an unwavering commitment to equality, diversity, and inclusion, which will underpin these skills and attributes, then we want to hear from you.

I hope that the attached pack will provide you with all the information you need to understand the role and responsibilities of the Chair, how the Council operates, and the pivotal leadership role that the Chair fulfils.

The General Dental Council regulates over 125,000 dental professionals who overwhelmingly provide excellent dental services across our four nations and share our commitment to putting the public's interests first. Dental professionals play a vital role in the wider healthcare system, seeing millions of patients every year to support good oral and dental health.

We have a crucial role in ensuring that the public are protected, that they have confidence in dental professionals, and that professional standards are maintained. We will always have public safety and confidence at the heart of what we do; but we are moving from a focus on enforcement when things go wrong, to an approach that emphasises learning within the system, resolving concerns locally wherever possible, and engaging more effectively with the dental professions.

Our current Corporate Strategy 2023 – 2025 sets out our ambitions until the end of this year. We will be consulting on our new strategy later in 2025, and whilst our role in public protection remains unchanged, the future plans we are developing recognise that we must continue to modernise and improve our performance.

We aspire to be a trusted, high-performing regulator which is both effective and efficient, and this requires financial rigour and effective operation alongside a commitment to open engagement with stakeholders.

At this time of significant change and challenge for the public and dental professionals, it is very important that we work collaboratively with colleagues from across the dental professions. We must have a proportionate approach to regulation, focus on important areas of public safety, and ensure public confidence in the professions we regulate.

Since my appointment as Chair in October 2021, I have been privileged to oversee a period of substantial progress for the GDC. We have strengthened our performance and financial sustainability. We have seen continued improvement in performance, our engagement with stakeholders has deepened considerably and we have maintained sustainable finances over this time.

Although I will be concluding my term as Chair of Council in September, I remain committed to advancing the GDC's important work and ensuring a smooth transition and handover to my successor.

**Lord Toby Harris**

**Chair, GDC**





# What we do

The General Dental Council (GDC) is the UK-wide statutory regulator of over 125,000 members of the dental team, including over 45,000 dentists and over 79,000 dental care professionals (DCPs).

An individual must be registered with the GDC to practise dentistry in the UK. Unlike other health professional regulators, we register the whole dental team, across the four nations of the UK, including dental nurses, clinical dental technicians, dental hygienists, dental technicians, dental therapists, orthodontic therapists, and dentists.

## **Our primary purposes are:**

- To protect, promote and maintain the health, safety, and well-being of the public.
- To promote and maintain public confidence in the professions regulated.
- To promote and maintain proper professional standards and conduct for members of those professions.

In summary, our priorities are to maintain public safety and confidence. All patients should be confident that the treatment they receive is provided by a dental professional who is properly trained, qualified, and meets our standards. To achieve this, we work to ensure the quality of dental education, register qualified dental professionals, set the professional standards for the dental team and investigate complaints about dental professionals' fitness to practise.

## **The Dentists Act 1984 provides the legislative framework for our work. It currently gives us powers to:**

- Assure the quality of dental education and training programmes leading to registration with the GDC.
- Assure the quality of specialty training leading to dentists being able to describe themselves as specialists.
- Grant registration only to those dental professionals who meet our requirements on education and training, health, and good character. Only those who are registered with us can practise dentistry in the UK.
- Set standards of conduct, performance, and ethics for the dental team.
- Investigate concerns raised about dental professionals and, where appropriate, take action through our fitness to practise process.
- Protect the public from individuals carrying out dentistry while not registered.
- Ensure dental professionals keep their skills up to date through our continuing professional development requirements.

We are ultimately responsible to Parliament for the work we do and, in line with the other healthcare regulators, our work is scrutinised by another public body, the Professional Standards Authority. Our Annual report and Accounts can be read [here](#).



We receive no financial support from the Government to carry out our regulatory responsibilities. The majority of our income comes from the annual retention fee (ARF) paid by dental professionals, who must be registered to work in the UK.

We recognise that creating an environment that supports professional behaviour in the public interest requires all those involved in dentistry to work together effectively, and we are committed to working collaboratively with others to achieve this.

Our Council is composed of 12 Members, six of whom are lay Members – from a variety of professional backgrounds - and six are registered dental professionals. Our Chair is one of the 12 Members of the Council.

Our oversight body, the Professional Standards Authority, provides assurance to the Privy Council that our recruitment processes are fair, transparent, based on merit and inspire confidence. The appointments to our Council are made by the Privy Council.

Details of the current Council Members can be found [here](#).

We employ around 410 staff, headed up by our Chief Executive and Registrar and the Executive Leadership Team.

We have a head office in London, and an operational hub in Birmingham, which is where the majority of our staff are based. The organisation also aims to work flexibly - using a hybrid model of office and home-based working.

We work closely with around 500 associates who help us deliver a range of activities, including education inspections and Hearings to resolve fitness to practise concerns or Registration appeals.

We also run the Dental Complaints Service (DCS), which resolves complaints between private patients and dental professionals, and the Dental Professionals Hearings Service, who hold independent hearings for cases brought by the GDC about dental professionals' fitness to practise and registration.





# Our Corporate Strategy 2023-2025

**Our current Corporate Strategy 2023 – 2025 sets out our priorities until the end of 2025.**

## **Our current strategic aims are:**

1. Dental professionals reach and maintain high standards of safe and effective dental care
2. Concerns are addressed effectively and proportionately to protect the public and support professional learning
3. Risks affecting the public's safety and wellbeing are dealt with by the right organisations
4. Dental professional regulation is efficient and effective and adapts to the changing external environment.

The strategic plan is key in achieving our long-term ambition of moving dental professional regulation increasingly toward preventing harm to patients and the public, rather than responding to the consequences of it. We have been working on this ambition since 2017 when we published [Shifting the balance](#) reinforced it in 2020 with [Right time, Right place, Right touch](#).

**We will be consulting on our new strategy later in 2025, and whilst our role in public protection remains unchanged, the future plans we are developing recognise that we must continue to modernise and improve our performance.**

## **Some of the challenges include:**

- The increasing difficulties the public face in accessing NHS dental services
- The economic uncertainty that continues to affect the public, dental businesses, individual dental professionals and the GDC.
- The delays and uncertainty over the plans to reform the health professional regulators, which is an essential component to achievement of our ambition.
- The changes to our routes to registration, with more dental professionals joining the register who have trained and qualified outside of the UK.

Flexibility and adaptability will be essential for the GDC to respond to these challenges. Our efforts to improve how we operate, plan over the longer term, and manage expenditure have been essential and important activities. Our new strategic plan will build on this agility to enable the GDC to respond to a changing set of circumstances.

Whatever context we face, our purpose remains constant: to protect the public. At the core of what we do is ensuring that the Register is maintained so that the public only receives dental care from safe and effective dental professionals.





## Future appointments

In 2025, our current Chair, Lord Toby Harris (a lay member), and Council Members, Sheila Kumar and Anne Heal (lay members), will reach the end of their terms.

Consequently, we are seeking to appoint a new Chair, and either two or three lay Council Members to join the Council. To ensure we have the widest possible pool of candidates for the post of Chair, we will be undertaking interviews for this role first. Who we put forward for appointment for the Chair role will determine the number of lay Council Member roles we are required to fill. If a lay Chair is put forward for appointment by the Privy Council, we will seek two new lay Council Members, and if a registrant Chair is put forward for appointment by the Privy Council, we will seek three new lay Council Members.

Please note, there is a separate candidate pack for the lay Council Member roles, which is also being supported by Saxton Bampfylde.

As the GDC's Council Member representing Scotland will come to the end of their term within the next 12 months, applications from individuals living and working wholly or mainly in Scotland are also welcomed.





# The role of a Chair

We are looking for an individual who can lead the organisation through the changing external circumstances while delivering high quality services that protect the public.

You will need to be a strategic thinker who can quickly build relationships, challenge constructively, and focus on the key issues to ensure the GDC continues to improve the service provided to the public. Moreover, you must gain the support and trust of experienced and dedicated Council Members and GDC employees.

## The Chair is responsible for:

1. Providing leadership of the Council and GDC, and ensuring Council sets the strategic direction of the GDC within its statutory framework
  - Leading on the conduct of Council business, bringing impartiality and objectivity, and ensuring that clear decisions are taken
  - Taking responsibility for corporate strategy, business plans and budgets and the development of the framework for reviewing policy and operational performance
  - Ensuring that the GDC focuses on its statutory duties of public safety and public confidence in dental services
  - Overseeing the development of policy and taking major policy decisions
2. In partnership with the Chief Executive, leading the external relationships of the GDC, ensuring that the public and stakeholders have confidence in the GDC
  - In agreement with the Chief Executive, leading or supporting activities to engage with stakeholders and with other relevant organisations and government agencies in the four countries of the UK
  - When appropriate, acting personally to support and promote the interests of the GDC
3. Providing challenge and scrutiny of the GDC's operations, ensuring that they are aligned with the organisation's strategic direction
  - Building an effective relationship with the individual occupying the role of Chief Executive Registrar and Accounting Officer
  - Leading Council in holding the Executive to account for the management of day to day operations and that the GDC's operations in ways which facilitate the delivery of core functions to best effect, and that this is kept under review as circumstances change
4. Setting a positive tone, behaviour and culture for the organisation
  - Leading board development for the GDC's Council by engaging with external consultants to develop the ways of working of the Council and the ELT, and implementing the agreed outcomes from Board Performance Reviews.
  - Ensuring that the Council models the principles of public life and the GDC's leadership behaviours
  - Providing constructive and effective challenge

The Chair must be committed to public safety and confidence in dental services, which is the primary statutory purpose of the GDC. They must have the confidence to speak out and challenge, working effectively with fellow Council members, the Executive and stakeholders.



## Essential Criteria:

### The Chair must be able to demonstrate:

1. Significant non-Executive Board level experience, and chairing experience of a Board or formal Committee, with the proven ability to lead and facilitate strategic debate, bringing together the diverse perspectives and experiences of other Board members.
2. A track record of working at a senior level in the public sector and/or regulatory experience gained in a regulator or regulated industry.
3. Exceptional stakeholder management and communication skills, and the ability to develop and manage a range of complex relationships and act as an ambassador for the GDC.
4. Proven ability to lead an organisation through change and uncertainty.

### In addition, the Chair should meet the essential criteria which all Council Members are expected to have:

1. A commitment to public protection and a proven understanding and experience of supporting confidence in public services.
2. An understanding of, and demonstrated commitment to, equality, diversity and inclusion.
3. Demonstrable experience of contributing to an organisation operating within a statutory framework, in an environment that is impacted by and impacts upon government policy.
4. A clear understanding of, and the ability to work effectively with, the Executive to challenge, support and hold it to account for the delivery of the corporate strategy.
5. The capacity to understand the organisational and business issues facing the GDC, and the skills required to analyse, interrogate and scrutinise performance data.
6. Demonstrable experience of contributing constructively to collective decision-making processes, respecting and listening to others and earning the respect of colleagues.
7. A personal commitment to good governance, and of upholding the recognised principles of public life, identifying and managing conflicts of interest.

### Both lay and registrant candidates are welcome to apply for this role.

The GDC is committed to promoting equality of opportunity and it values diversity among our Council Members. We strongly encourage applications from all suitably qualified individuals, and we welcome applications from those with protected characteristics. We will seek to ensure that all applicants are treated fairly, with respect and without bias.





# Terms of appointment

The GDC will run the recruitment process with support from an external partner and will follow the guidance issued by the Professional Standards Authority in respect of appointments to the Council.

The outcome of the recruitment process will be a recommendation from the GDC to the Privy Council to make the relevant appointments. The initial term for appointment to the Council will be no longer than four years. Appointments, including start dates and terms of office, are made by the Privy Council. Therefore, you may not hear the outcome of your interview until July 2025.

## Remuneration

£55,000 per year.

## Time commitment

Due to the need to provide consistency and stability of leadership to the organisation, particularly given the uncertain external climate, the GDC is looking for a candidate who can commit a significant period to the role.

We will seek an initial term of appointment of four years from the Privy Council.

Council Members, including the Chair, may hold office for a maximum of eight years in any twenty year period, usually in two terms. Re-appointments can be made at the end of the first period of office, subject to satisfactory performance appraisal and the needs of the Council.

The role will require a minimum of two days a week from the new Chair.

Most meetings are held in the GDC's offices in central London, with at least one meeting a year in the Birmingham office and one meeting being held in one of the other three nations.

Council Members, including the Chair, are eligible to claim expenses in accordance with the GDC's policy.

## Development and appraisal

An induction programme will be provided upon appointment. There will be an annual appraisal for the Chair, which will be conducted by the Senior Independent Council Member.

## Standards in public life

You will be expected to demonstrate high standards of corporate and personal conduct. The successful candidate must subscribe to our Code of Conduct (Appendix 1).

Applicants must also observe the standards of probity required by public appointees outlined in the Principles of Public Life.



## Eligibility and disqualification

The Chair of Council can be a lay or a registrant member.

### Registrant member

A dental professional (registrant member) is someone who is currently registered with the GDC, has met their CPD requirements, and made an indemnity declaration. Applicants must not be subject to current fitness to practise proceedings.

### Lay member

Lay means a person who:

- is not and never has been a registered dentist or a registered dental care professional, and
- does not hold a qualification or qualifications which would entitle them to apply for registration as a registered dental care professional

All applicants should be aware that Council members who are subject to an investigation or proceedings concerning their fitness to practise by the GDC or other licensing bodies may have their membership of Council suspended by the Privy Council while those proceedings are underway. You cannot be a member of the Council at the same time as being a member of any of its statutory committees. In addition, you cannot be a member of the Council of more than one health regulator.

**No person who is disqualified from membership as set out in The General Dental Council (Constitution) Order 2009 may be a Council Member.**

The General Dental Council (Constitution) Order 2009 sets out the disqualification criteria for Council Members (Appendix 2). Further advice about disqualification for appointment can be given by the GDC's Governance team – [governance@gdc-uk.org](mailto:governance@gdc-uk.org).





# Recruitment Process

## The timetable for the recruitment process is as follows:

- Closing date – noon, Monday 24th February 2025
- Preliminary interviews – March 2025 - April 2025
- Final interviews – May 2025
- Induction period – Summer - Autumn 2025
- Take office – 1 October 2025

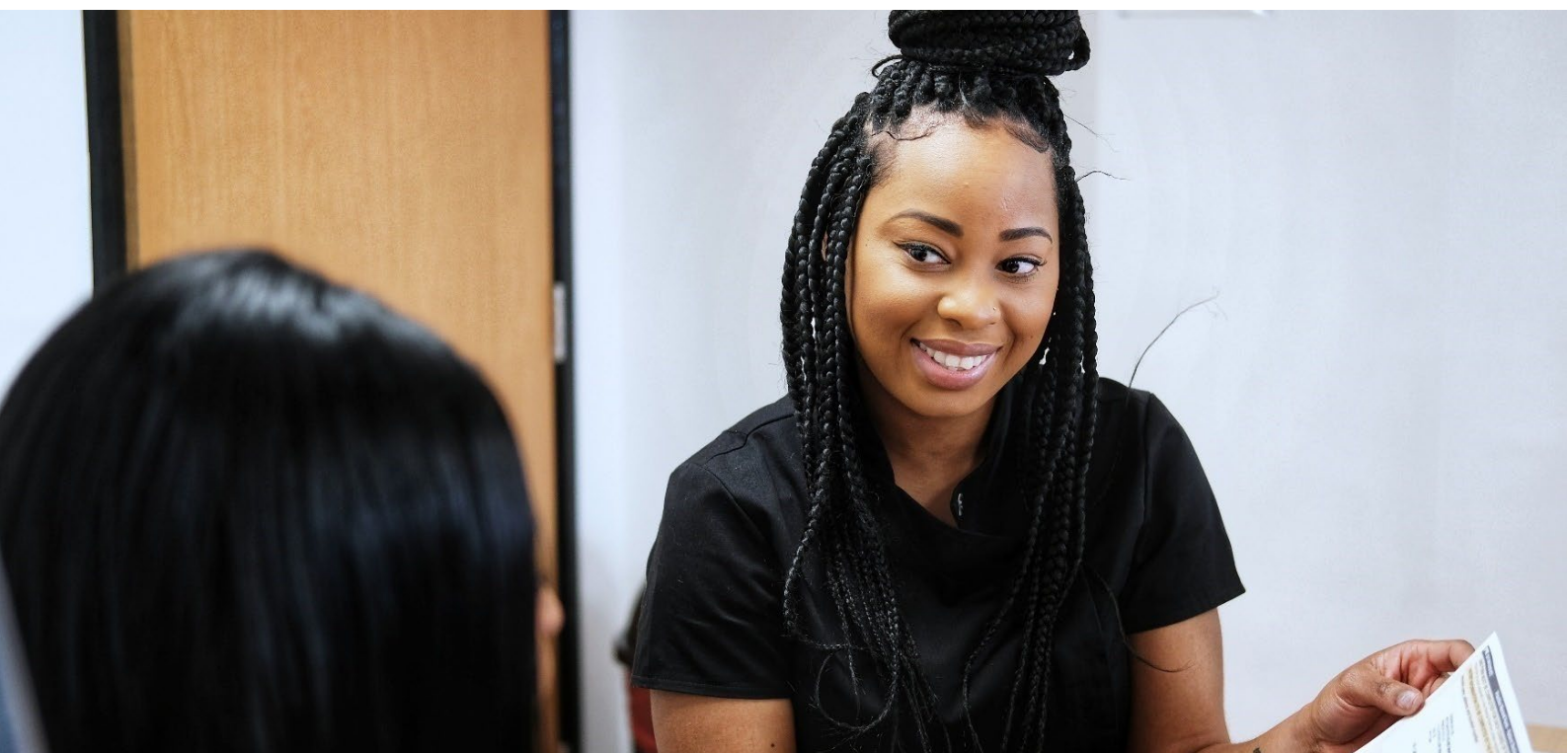
The GDC, like other healthcare regulators, is responsible for managing the process of appointment and reappointment of Council Members in line with the requirements of their legislative frameworks. The campaign will be run in line with the Professional Standards Authority (PSA)'s published best practice, which sets out four principles of a good appointments process:

- merit
- fairness
- transparency and openness
- inspiring confidence

The GDC is required to provide the PSA with evidence that these principles have been followed in the recruitment process. The Privy Council will consider advice from the PSA on the process that the GDC has used before making their decision to appoint.

## Selection Panel

The selection panel will be made up of a mixture of lay and registrant Council Members and an Independent Panel Member





# How to apply

Saxton Bampfylde Ltd is acting as an employment agency advisor to the General Dental Council on this appointment.

Candidates should apply for this role through our website [www.saxbam.com/appointments](http://www.saxbam.com/appointments) using code **AZNQ**. The closing date for applications is **noon on Monday 24th February 2025**.

Click on the 'apply' button and follow the instructions to upload the completed supporting statement and a CV.

Please complete all sections in the supporting statement. You will need to download this, complete it offline and then upload it to the site.

You will then be asked to upload a copy of a brief CV (maximum 3 pages).

When completing the supporting statement, please refer to the competencies detailed in this pack for the Chair of the Council (on page 7 of this pack) as well as the essential knowledge and skills for Council Members (on page 8 of this pack).

Please ensure that your supporting statement also highlights specific and detailed examples of experience in line with these areas and what you did to achieve a specific result.

There is a 2000-word limit for the supporting statement.

The final stage of the supporting statement will ask you to provide details of other NHS commitments and any actual or perceived conflicts of interest. Once complete, you will be asked to make a final submission of your application. You will also be asked to provide the details for two referees who will be able to comment on your ability to do this job.

Once submitted, you cannot retrieve your application to make any further amends so ensure you are happy that it is fully complete. Please also allow yourself sufficient time to complete the process, particularly if you are unfamiliar with online recruitment processes. **Your application must be received by the deadline of noon on Monday 24th February 2025. We regret that late applications will not be accepted.**

Should you have any problems submitting your application, please contact Belinda Beck at [Belinda.Beck@saxbam.com](mailto:Belinda.Beck@saxbam.com) **before** the deadline for applications. If you contact us following the deadline, we will be unable to accept your application.

After you have completed the Equal Opportunities information, you will see a confirmation screen acknowledging your application. You will also receive an email to the email address you provided, confirming receipt of your application. If you do not receive this acknowledgment immediately, please check your spam and, if you still cannot see it, please email Belinda Beck at [Belinda.Beck@saxbam.com](mailto:Belinda.Beck@saxbam.com).

## Reasonable adjustments

Please can you let us know in your application if you require any reasonable adjustments to be made to assist you in completing the supporting statement, attending the interview, or any reasonable adjustments that would need to be made to the role or the working environment if your application is successful. Please email Belinda Beck at [Belinda.Beck@saxbam.com](mailto:Belinda.Beck@saxbam.com).





## Disability Confident Scheme

The GDC operates the Disability Confident Scheme. Candidates with a disability who meet the essential criteria for this role will be guaranteed a preliminary interview under this scheme. Should you wish to apply under this scheme, please complete the separate online form and submit this with your application.

If you require information in a different format, please contact Belinda Beck at [Belinda.Beck@saxbam.com](mailto:Belinda.Beck@saxbam.com).

## GDPR personal data notice

According to GDPR guidelines, we are only able to process your Sensitive Personal Data (racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union membership, genetic data, biometric data, health, sex life, or sexual orientation) with your express consent. You will be asked to complete a consent form when you apply and please do not include any Sensitive Personal Data within your CV (although this can be included in your covering letter if you wish to do so), remembering also not to include contact details for referees without their prior agreement.

\* The equal opportunities monitoring online form will not be shared with anyone involved in assessing your application. Please complete as part of the application process.

## Contact

If, once you have read this pack, you have any specific questions about the roles or the process, please contact our advisors, Alex Richmond, Jonathan Morgan and Rhys O'Connell Davies. Please email [Rhys.Davies@saxbam.com](mailto:Rhys.Davies@saxbam.com) to arrange a conversation.

## How we will handle your application

We will deal with your application as quickly as possible (timings below are indicative).

The selection process will be evidence led.

Panel members will be supplied with, and will assess, anonymised copies of your application.

## Process for the Chair appointment

In **March 2025**, the selection panel will decide the candidates who will be selected for preliminary interview with our recruitment partner. This will take account of the evidence provided on your application. In selecting the best people for interview, the panel will ensure that all the applicants demonstrate any essential requirements in the competencies and experience for the post. You will be advised of the outcome of your application by our recruitment partner via e-mail.

Preliminary Interviews will take place in **March 2025 and April 2025** and will be conducted virtually through Microsoft Teams video conferencing.

In **April 2025**, the selection panel will decide the candidates who will be selected for final stage interview. This will take account of the evidence provided on your application and in your preliminary interview. In selecting the best people for interview, the panel will ensure that all the applicants demonstrate any essential requirements in the competencies and experience for the post. You will be advised of the outcome of your application by our recruitment partner via telephone.



Reasonable adjustments will be made for candidates with disabilities who progress to preliminary and final interviews.

References for shortlisted candidates will be taken in **April and May 2025** – please ensure that your referees are aware and able to respond during this time.

In addition, we will also undertake checks, including internet and social media checks, related to any information about you which could bring into question your eligibility or ability to perform the role, or which might represent a reputational risk to the GDC or the Privy Council. Where checks reveal information that might affect your eligibility for appointment, candidates will be given an opportunity to discuss the information before a course of action is decided upon.

For those candidates selected for final interview, the formal panel interviews will take place in **May 2025**. The interview format will be confirmed with candidates at the point of invite, but this is expected to also include a panel presentation at the final stage.

The GDC plans to submit its recommendation for the Council Member appointments to the Privy Council in **June 2025**, following confirmation by the Professional Standards Authority that the Privy Council can have confidence in the process.

It is expected that the Privy Council will confirm the appointments in **early Summer 2025**. Please note that, at this stage, information provided by candidates and arising from our due diligence checks may be shared with the Privy Council and the Professional Standards Authority.

The Privy Council will write to the successful candidates formally offering them the appointment and the appointments will commence on **1 October 2025**. This process can take some time and, unfortunately, we are unable to provide information about the outcome of the process until the Privy Council has made its decision. We endeavour to keep candidates updated during this period.

If, following preliminary interview or final interview with the GDC your application is unsuccessful, you will be offered verbal feedback from our recruitment partner.

### Conflicts of interest

It is particularly important to declare any actual or perceived conflicts of interest that could be considered relevant to the GDC at the application stage of the process. This includes:

- Close relationships with other Council, Committee Members or Members of the interview panel.
- Any relevant business interests, positions of authority or other connections with organisations relevant to the business of the GDC.  
Interests relating to other connected persons (defined as a person with whom you have a personal or business relationship), which could be perceived as influencing the position of a Council Member.

Actual and perceived conflicts of interest will be fully explored by the selection panel at the interview stage.

### Travel expenses

The GDC will reimburse travel expenses in line with corporate policy.





## If you have a complaint

The General Dental Council is committed to processes and procedures that are fair, transparent, and free from discrimination. Complaints about any aspect of the appointments process for the Council member roles will be monitored, recorded, and promptly handled.

If you have any complaints about the way your application has been handled, please contact the Governance team – [governance@gdc-uk.org](mailto:governance@gdc-uk.org).

Complaints will be acknowledged as soon as possible and responded to within 20 working days.

Following investigation of the complaint, if an applicant remains dissatisfied with the response provided by or on behalf of the GDC, they can raise their concerns with the Privy Council. The Privy Council is responsible for appointing the Council members. Please contact: Privy Council Office, Room G/04, 1 Horse Guards Road, London, SW1A 2HQ, Telephone: 020 7271 3292, Email: [enquiries@pco.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@pco.gov.uk)



# Terms

## Monitoring information

The GDC values equality and diversity and is committed to ensuring its processes and procedures are fair, transparent, and free from unlawful discrimination. To ensure we are treating candidates fairly, we monitor diversity at all stages of the appointments process. The application process includes an online equal opportunities monitoring form. Providing this information is optional and each question may be answered on an individual basis, but we would be grateful for your cooperation.

Information provided will be treated as strictly confidential and held securely in line with data protection and other relevant legislation and will be used for monitoring purposes only. It will not be seen by anyone directly involved in the selection process and will not be treated as part of your application. No information will be published or used in any way which allows any individuals to be identified.

## Use of your personal data

For full details of how your personal data will be handled, please [click here](#).

Please be aware that information may be shared with the Professional Standards Authority and the Privy Council as required as part of the appointments process.

## Ministerial appointments

We ask that candidates give full information about any ministerial appointments they hold. You should also include details of any current NHS board appointments you hold. Please ensure that you include full details of the body to which you have already been appointed, the period of appointment and annual remuneration or daily fees paid.

## Appendices

Appendix 1 – Code of Conduct for Council Members

Appendix 2 – The General Dental Council (Constitution) Order 2009 – Disqualification criteria for Council Members



# Frequently Asked Questions

## **1. Do I have to be a UK national to apply for this role?**

No, you do not have to be a UK national, but you will have to provide evidence of your right to live and work in the UK.

## **2. Is there an upper age limit?**

No, there is no upper age limit.

## **3. What are the other eligibility requirements?**

You will not be eligible to apply for this role if you are currently:

- Subject to proceedings or have current sanctions against you from any professional regulator, including the General Dental Council.
- Meet any of the disqualification criteria as set out in Section 5 of the General Dental Council (Constitution) Order 2009. These include things like having an unspent conviction for dishonesty or deception, or where you received a prison sentence, and having been declared bankrupt or disqualified from acting as a director. For further details, please see here.

If you remain in any doubt as to your eligibility, please contact us before applying.

## **4. What will the time commitment be for the appointment? Does this include travel and prep time?**

The role will require a minimum of two days a week.

## **5. There are approximately six Council meetings a year. How much travel is involved?**

In usual times, the majority of Council meetings are held in the GDC's offices in central London, with at least one meeting a year in the Birmingham office and one meeting being held in one of the other three UK nations. When circumstances dictate, these meetings may be held virtually.

## **6. Is this a fixed term appointment?**

Due to the need to provide consistency and stability of leadership to the organisation, particularly given the uncertain external climate, the GDC is looking for a candidate who can commit a significant period to the role.

We will seek an initial term of appointment of four years from the Privy Council.

Council Members, including the Chair, may hold office for a maximum of eight years in any twenty year period, usually in two terms. Re-appointments can be made at the end of the first period of office, subject to satisfactory performance appraisal and the needs of the Council.

## **7. Is the role remunerated?**

Yes, the remuneration for the role is £55,000 per annum.

## **8. Are expenses covered and would I be responsible for booking my own travel?**

Yes, the GDC will meet the cost of reasonable expenses in accordance with its travel and expenses policy.

## **9. Do I need to use a computer?**

Yes, you will be provided with a work device, and we would generally expect our Members, including the Chair, to be computer literate, to respond to communications via email and to be able to participate in meetings held virtually (via MS Teams or similar). We are, however, able to make reasonable adjustments, if needed, and will provide support in relation to training to use any particular software (such as MS Teams or our Board portal for reviewing papers).

**10. How much experience are you looking for?**

Significant Non-Executive Board level experience, and chairing experience of a Board or formal Committee is required for this role, with the proven ability to lead and facilitate strategic debate, bringing together the diverse perspectives and experiences of other Board members.

The Chair of the Council will act as an ambassador for the GDC requiring exceptional stakeholder management and communication skills, and the ability to develop and manage a range of complex relationships.

**11. Do I require any experience of working in regulation?**

A track record of working at a senior level in the public sector, and/or regulatory experience gained in a regulator or regulated industry.

**12. Will the GDC seek references prior to appointment?**

Yes, the GDC will secure two satisfactory references prior to final interview. These will not be taken without your prior consent at that time. Please refer to the timetable in the Candidate Brief and advise your referees that they will be approached prior to the final interviews.

In addition to candidates completing the self-declaration in the Application Form, further due diligence will also be undertaken should you progress to final stage. This will include (although the list is not exhaustive):

- Identity verification and right to work
- Insolvency check/disqualified directors' check
- Professional membership (where applicable)
- Media risk analysis (review of social media such as X (formally known as Twitter), Google or LinkedIn)
- Registration status check/fitness to practise/conduct status check with a relevant professional regulator, Charity Commission or Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator for removed trustees, roles with or associated to the GDC, Ministerial or NHS Board appointments

**13. What is your policy on diversity?**

The GDC is committed to promoting equality of opportunity and values diversity of culture among our Council Members. We strongly encourage applications from all suitably qualified individuals, and we welcome applications from those with protected characteristics. We will seek to ensure that all applicants are treated fairly, with respect and without bias.

You can read our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion strategy [here](#).

**14. Can I speak to anyone before making a formal application?**

Yes, you can speak to our advising consultants at Saxton Bampfylde. Contact details are provided on this website.

**15. How do I apply?**

Detailed instructions are included in the Applicant Pack. If you experience any difficulties, please contact Saxton Bampfylde, whose contact details are included in the pack.

# General Dental Council

## Saxton Bampfylde

### **LONDON**

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London SE1 1DN

### **EDINBURGH**

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Edinburgh EH3 7HF

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