

EMBARGOED until 10am, Friday 13 December 2024

Private & Confidential

Sent by email

13 December 2024

Dear Stakeholder,

I am writing to inform you that I will be concluding my term as Chair of the General Dental Council (GDC) in September 2025, alongside two of our lay Council members, Sheila Kumar and Anne Heal, whose terms also come to an end at that time.

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, which enabled us to reduce the Annual Retention Fee in 2024.

Our engagement with stakeholders has deepened considerably, particularly through convening the Dental Leadership Network and introducing workforce data collection during registration renewal.

After careful consideration, I have decided not to seek a further term as Chair. Following the recent change in Government, my Parliamentary and political responsibilities have increased significantly. While I remain fully committed to the GDC, I believe it would not be appropriate to undertake another term if I cannot dedicate the level of attention to this crucial role that it demands.

I want to assure you of my unwavering commitment to advancing the GDC's important work over the next 10 months. I look forward to our continued collaboration during this period and will ensure a smooth transition to my successor, supporting the recruitment process and handover in every way possible.

The GDC will start the recruitment process for the three positions in early 2025, seeking candidates from diverse backgrounds who can help further strengthen our vital role in protecting the public and supporting dental professionals. The Chair position will be open to both lay people and dental professionals.

Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to continuing to work with you in 2025.

Sincerely,



Lord Toby Harris
Chair of Council
General Dental Council