

ON PAPERS

Registration Appeals Committee (CPD Appeal)

25 March 2026

Name: LANSDOWNE, Daniel John

Registration number: 155026

Case number: CAS-213489-T2R5F9

General Dental Council: Lauren Francis, ILAS

Registrant: Unrepresented

Outcome: Appeal dismissed

Committee members: Val Evans (Chair, Lay member)
Katherine Barrett (DCP member)
Gulshana Choudhury (Dentist member)

Legal adviser: Claire Robinson

Committee Secretary: Sarah Crewe

1. This was an appeal hearing before the Registration Appeals Committee (RAC). The hearing was conducted remotely on Microsoft Teams.
2. The appeal was against the decision of the Registrar of the General Dental Council (the Council) to erase Mr Lansdowne from the Register for apparent non-compliance with the statutory Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements. The hearing was held in accordance with the terms of the General Dental Council (Registration Appeals) Rules Order of Council 2006 ('the Registration Appeal Rules'), pursuant to Schedule 4A of the Dentists Act 1984 (as amended) ('the Act').
3. Neither party was present at today's hearing. The Committee first considered the issues of service and whether to proceed with the hearing on the papers in the absence of Mr Lansdowne and any representatives for either party. The Committee accepted the advice of the Legal Adviser on both of these matters.

Decision to conduct the appeal in the absence of Mr Lansdowne and on the papers

4. Notification of this appeal was sent to Mr Lansdowne by Recorded Delivery and secure email on 20 February 2026 in accordance with Rule 5 of the Registration Appeal Rules.
5. The Committee noted that conducting the appeal on the papers is the default position of the GDC unless an appellant requests an oral hearing. It took into account that the GDC's acknowledgement of Mr Lansdowne's appeal, dated 2 December 2025, informed Mr Lansdowne that he could request an oral hearing within 28 days of the date of the letter. Having considered the documents provided, the Committee was satisfied that Mr Lansdowne had made no such request.
6. The Committee noted that the bundle of documents and case summary that the Committee would be considering were sent to Mr Lansdowne by Recorded Delivery and secure email on 9 March 2026. The Committee did not receive the main bundle until at least 7 days before the hearing, however it considered that it had sufficient time to read and consider the papers in order to make a fully informed decision on this appeal.
7. In the circumstances, the Committee was satisfied that it was appropriate to consider today's appeal in the absence of either party and on the papers.

Decision and reasons on the appeal

Background

8. The General Dental Council (Continuing Professional Development) (Dentists and Dental Care Professionals) Rules 2017 ('the CPD Rules') set out the CPD requirements placed on DCP registrants as of 1 August 2018, and the steps that the

GDC shall take in respect of registrants' compliance and non-compliance with those requirements.

9. The CPD Rules came into force on the 1 January 2018 and took effect in respect of dental care professionals on 1 August 2018.
10. In accordance with Rule 1, a 'CPD cycle' means, in respect of a dental care professional, a period of five years beginning on 1 August following the date the dental care professional is first registered and each subsequent period of five years. A 'CPD year' means, in respect of a dental care professional, a period of 12 months beginning on 1 August in any calendar year.
11. Mr Lansdowne appealed against the Registrar's decision that his CPD is non-compliant because he failed to provide a compliant CPD record demonstrating that he had met the required minimum CPD requirement for the period 1 August 2023 to 31 July 2025.

Summary

12. The GDC's case in support of its decision was summarised as follows:

Mr Lansdowne first registered with the General Dental Council ("the Council") as a dental care professional, with the title dental technician on 22 July 2008. Therefore, in accordance with Rule 1, Mr Lansdowne's current CPD cycle began on 1 August 2023 and will end on 31 July 2028. The CPD period relevant to this appeal is 1 August 2023 to 31 July 2025.

On 22 May 2025, the Council sent an email reminder to Mr Lansdowne's registered email address. This reminder notified Mr Lansdowne that his CPD year was coming to an end and reminded him that he was required to submit his CPD statement, detailing how many CPD hours he had completed during that year, by 28 August 2025. The email also noted that Mr Lansdowne should make sure that he completed at least 10 hours of CPD over the last two years. Mr Lansdowne was advised that if he did not submit a compliant statement before the deadline, his registration may be put at risk.

On 10 June 2025, the Council also sent Mr Lansdowne an Annual Renewal Notice letter by post to his registered address. The Annual Renewal Notice is designed to remind registrants that their registration with the Council is due for renewal, of the need to pay their annual retention fee and make their indemnity declaration and of the need to make their CPD statement. Mr Lansdowne was also reminded in this notice that he was required to submit his CPD statement by 28 August 2025, and if he was short on CPD hours and had the opportunity to be compliant by the deadline, he should do so.

On 7 July 2025, the Council sent an email to Mr Lansdowne in which he was reminded that his Annual Renewal was due on or before 31 July 2025. It was noted that, although the Council had received his Annual Retention Fee it was yet to receive his indemnity declaration. Mr Lansdowne was reminded within this email of the need to complete his CPD statement.

On 12 June 2025, 18 July 2025 and 5 August 2025, the Council sent email reminders to Mr Lansdowne's registered email address. These reminders notified Mr Lansdowne that his CPD year was coming to an end. The reminders stated that he was required to submit his CPD statement by 28 August 2025. Mr Lansdowne was notified that if he failed to submit a compliant CPD statement by this date, his registration may be put at risk.

Between 12 August 2025 and 28 August 2025, the Council sent three SMS reminders to Mr Lansdowne's registered mobile number. The reminders noted that the 2024-2025 CPD Annual statement was incomplete and reminded Mr Lansdowne to log into his eGDC account by 28 August 2025.

On 21 August 2025, Mr Lansdowne submitted an annual CPD statement for the 2024-2025 CPD year, declaring that he had completed four verifiable CPD hours.

On 25 September 2025, the Council sent a notice under Rule 6 to Mr Lansdowne by recorded delivery to his registered address.

The notice stated that, although Mr Lansdowne had submitted a CPD statement to the Council, he had not declared enough hours to meet the requirement to complete a minimum of 10 hours of CPD over two consecutive years. It was noted that he had submitted an annual CPD statement of zero verifiable hours for the 2023-2024 CPD year and an annual CPD statement of four verifiable hours for the 2024-2025 CPD year.

The notice stated that if Mr Lansdowne wished to retain his registration, he should submit his CPD record to the Registrar by 23 October 2025 in order to demonstrate that he had met the requirement to complete 10 hours of CPD between 1 August 2023 and 31 July 2025. Mr Lansdowne was informed that if the Council did not receive a response to the notice or if his response was unsatisfactory, he may be erased from the dental care professionals register.

On 26 September 2025, a copy of the notice was also sent via email to Mr Lansdowne's registered email address.

On 3 October 2025, the Council received an email from Mr Lansdowne and attached CPD certificates. The email stated the following:

- *I am currently not practising as a dental technician and haven't done so since the covid pandemic. However I would like to remain on the register to enable me to return to the trade in the future.*
- *My last ECPD was completed in December 2023. Please see attached certificate. I was unaware 10 hrs of CPD should have been completed per 2 years.*
- *I have been trying to find suitable CPD provider recently, It seems The Dental Technician magazine is no longer published.*
- *I will find an online CPD provider soon and endeavour to complete the registration requirements. Can you recommend an approved provider?*
- *Please see attached EPCD from the Dental Technician Magazine.*

On 6 October 2025, a senior operations officer on behalf of the Council emailed Mr Lansdowne and confirmed receipt of the CPD for assessment and noted that the assessment process may take up to six weeks.

On 20 October 2025, the Council received an email from Mr Lansdowne informing the Council that he had subscribed to the Laboratory magazine and 'will use their enhanced CPD courses to fulfil [my] CPD obligations'. He further noted that he had completed two hours of CPD.

On 5 November 2025, the Council sent a Rule 8 notice to Mr Lansdowne's registered address by recorded delivery. This notice confirmed that Mr Lansdowne had failed to provide a compliant CPD record demonstrating that he had met the minimum requirement for the period 1 August 2023 to 31 July 2025 and that as a result, the Registrar had made the decision to remove his name from the dental care professionals register for non-compliance with the Rules. The reasons that Mr Lansdowne's CPD remained deficient was because:

- *He failed to provide sufficient evidence that demonstrates compliance with the CPD requirement of completing 10 hours of verifiable CPD over two consecutive years.*
- *He was outstanding 10 verifiable hours.*
- *He did not provide a personal development plan.*
- *He did not provide an activity log.*
- *ECPD certificate dated 3 December 2023 did not meet the full CPD criteria as it did not contain a subject title on the certificate. The hours differed on pages 1 and 2, and due to this it was unclear if the 2nd and 3rd page were related to this certificate.*

Further, the letter explained that the Council had considered Mr Lansdowne's personal circumstances and applied the relevant guidance. The Registrar's decision was to remove Mr Lansdowne's name from the dental care professionals register for non-compliance.

Mr Lansdowne was notified that unless an appeal was submitted, the Registrar's decision would take effect on 5 December 2025. On 6 November 2025, a copy of the notice was sent via email to Mr Lansdowne's registered email address.

On 10 November 2025, the Council received a Notice of Appeal ("NOA") via email from Mr Lansdowne which confirmed that he wished to appeal against the decision to remove his from the dental care professionals register. Mr Lansdowne submits:

- He is a freelance prosthetic technician.*
- He has been unable to find work since 'covid lock down' and as such has pursued different forms of employment.*
- He has been 'distracted and neglected by CPD obligations but would still like to remain registered should I return to dentistry'.*
- He has recently subscribed to FMC dentistry CPD and will catch up and fulfil CPD obligations.*

On 12 November 2025, Mr Lansdowne's CPD evidence was assessed by an Operations Officer. Mr Lansdowne was deemed to be non-compliant with his CPD requirements on the basis that he had 10 verifiable CPD hours outstanding for the period 1 August 2023 to 31 July 2025. It was confirmed that, as of 12 November 2025, Mr Lansdowne had completed zero verifiable CPD hours between 1 August 2023 to 31 July 2025.

Submissions

13. It is the Registrar's position that Mr Lansdowne is non-compliant with the CPD requirements because he has failed to provide a CPD record demonstrating that he has completed the minimum requirement for the period 1 August 2023 to 31 July 2025, in accordance with Rule 2.
14. It is submitted by the Registrar that Mr Lansdowne was reminded on numerous occasions of the need to complete his CPD hours and of the requirement to complete 10 verifiable CPD hours in each two-year period, as set out in detail above.
15. It is further submitted that as of 12 November 2025, Mr Lansdowne had completed zero verifiable CPD hours between 1 August 2023 and 31 July 2025, which clearly breaches the requirement that dental care professionals submit evidence that they have completed a minimum of 10 verifiable CPD hours in each two-year period.
16. It is acknowledged by the GDC that Mr Lansdowne has not worked as a dental technician over the relevant period. However, completion of verifiable CPD is a requirement of registration.
17. Further, it is acknowledged that Mr Lansdowne has sought to recently identify CPD providers. However, the relevant period subject to this appeal is 1 August 2023 to 31

July 2025 and Mr Lansdowne has not provided any compliant evidence of CPD over this period.

Committee's decision

18. The Committee had regard to the documentary evidence provided and took account of the written submissions made on behalf of the GDC and those made by Mr Lansdowne in his NOA. It heard and accepted the advice of the Legal Adviser.
19. Having carefully considered the information before it, the Committee concluded that Mr Lansdowne did not complete his required CPD hours for the period 1 August 2023 – 31 July 2025.
20. In its consideration of Mr Lansdowne's personal circumstances, the Committee was unable to conclude that Mr Lansdowne's absence from work prevented him from complying with his CPD requirements between 2023 and 2025. It did not consider that being 'distracted' was sufficient to be considered exceptional circumstances, and it is the responsibility of a registrant to ensure that they meet all of the criteria for registration.
21. Accordingly, the appeal is dismissed. The Committee wished to remind Mr Lansdowne that it is open to him to apply for the restoration of his name to the Register upon completion of the required number of CPD hours.
22. Unless Mr Lansdowne exercises his right of appeal to the County Court (if their address is in England or Wales) or the sheriff in whose sheriffdom their address is located (if based in Scotland), in accordance with paragraph 6 of Schedule 4A to the Act, the erasure decision will take effect upon the expiry of the 28-day appeal period. It will then be open to Mr Lansdowne to apply for the restoration of his name if he meets the CPD and other requirements for restoration.
23. This will be confirmed to Mr Lansdowne in writing.
24. That concludes this determination.