

**ON PAPERS
PRIVATE HEARING**

**Registrations Appeal Hearing
CPD Appeal Hearing**

20 August 2026

Name: SAID, Sadia

Registration number: 302636

Case number: CAS-215683-C8L6J1

General Dental Council: Represented by Megan Wolliner, ILAS

Registrant: Unrepresented

Outcome: Appeal dismissed

Committee members: John Vellacott (Chair, lay member)
Alan McCrum (Lay member)
Annika Hindocha (Dentist member)

Legal adviser: Mike Bell

Committee Secretary: Sara Page

At this hearing the Committee made a determination that includes some private information. That information shall be omitted from the restricted version of this determination and the document marked to show where private material is removed.

1. This is an appeal meeting before the Registration Appeals Committee (RAC). The appeal is against the decision of the Registrar of the General Dental Council (GDC) to erase Miss Said from the Register for apparent non-compliance with the statutory Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements. The hearing is being 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 2A of the *Dentists Act 1984* (as amended) ('the Act').
2. The hearing was conducted remotely via Microsoft Teams in line with current GDC practice. Neither party was present at today's hearing, following notification from the GDC that the appeal was to be conducted on the papers.

Preliminary matters

Application for the hearing to be held partly in private

3. At the beginning of the hearing, the Committee considered an application under Rule 14(1) of the Appeal Rules that that this hearing be held partly in private since where reference is made to Miss Said's private and family life.
4. The Committee heard and accepted the advice of the Legal Adviser in this regard. The Committee bore in mind that, as a starting point, hearings should be conducted in public session. However, having regard to the information before it, the Committee was satisfied that the personal interests of Miss Said outweighed the public interest in this case.
5. The Committee therefore determined that the hearing should be held in private when discussing matters relating to Miss Said's private and family life, and directed that two versions of the determination be made available, with appropriate redactions made to the restricted version that is made available to the public upon request.

Decision to conduct the appeal in the absence of Miss Said and on the papers

6. Neither party was present at today's meeting. The Committee noted that conducting the appeal on the papers is the default position of the GDC unless an appellant requests an oral hearing. Having considered the documents provided, the Committee was satisfied that Miss Said had made no such request.
7. Notification of this appeal was sent to Miss Said by Recorded Delivery and secure email on 17 June 2026 in accordance with Rule 5 of the Registration Appeal Rules. The Committee also had regard to an email from Miss Said, dated 16 June 2026, stating that she was content for the appeal to be conducted in her absence.
8. 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**

9. The General Dental Council (Continuing Professional Development) (Dentists and Dental Care Professionals) Rules 2017 ('the CPD Rules') set out the CPD requirements placed on dentist registrants as of 1 January 2018, and the steps that the GDC shall take in respect of registrants' compliance and non-compliance with those requirements.
10. The 2017 Rules came into force on 1 January 2018 and took effect in respect of dentists on the same date.
11. In accordance with Rule 1, a 'CPD cycle' means, in respect of a dentist, a period of five years beginning on 1 January following the date the dentist is first registered and each subsequent period of five years. A 'CPD year' means, in respect of a dentist, a period of 12 months beginning on 1 January in any calendar year.
12. Miss Said appealed against the Registrar's decision that her CPD is non-compliant because she had failed to meet the minimum requirement for the period 1 January 2024 – 31 December 2025.

Summary

13. The GDC's case in support of its decision was summarised as follows:
14. Miss Said first registered with the GDC as a dentist, on 18 August 2022. Therefore, in accordance with Rule 1 as set out above, Miss Said's current CPD cycle began on 1 January 2023 and will end on 31 December 2027. The CPD period at issue for this appeal is 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2025.
15. On 30 October 2025, the GDC sent an email reminder to Miss Said's registered email address stating that her CPD cycle year was coming to an end and that she was required to submit her CPD statement, detailing how many CPD hours she had completed during that year, by 28 January 2026.
16. On 10 November 2025, the GDC sent Miss Said an Annual Renewal Notice by post to her registered address. The Notice reminds registrants that their registration 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. Miss Said was also reminded that she was required to submit her CPD statement by 28 January 2026. Miss Said was further reminded that she was required to submit her CPD statement each year and declare at least ten hours of CPD for every two consecutive CPD years.
17. Between 26 November 2025 and 28 January 2026, the GDC sent numerous reminders via different methods to Miss Said regarding her PD requirements.
18. On 23 January 2026, Miss Said submitted an annual declaration of four CPD hours for her 2025 CPD cycle year.

Rule 6 Notice

19. On 20 February 2026, the GDC sent a notice under Rule 6 of the 2017 Rules to Miss Said by recorded delivery to her registered address. The notice stated Miss Said had not declared enough hours to meet the requirement of completing a minimum of ten hours of CPD over two consecutive years in accordance with Rule 2(5) of the 2017 Rules. It noted that Miss Said had submitted a 2024 CPD Annual statement of three verifiable hours and recently submitted a 2025 CPD statement of four verifiable hours. The notice stated that if Miss Said wished to retain her registration, she should submit her CPD record to demonstrate that she had met the requirements between 1 January 2024 – 31 December 2025, and to provide this by 20 March 2026. Miss Said was asked to inform the GDC if there were any reasons for exceptional circumstances, together with supporting evidence, which meant she was unable to submit a compliant statement, as this would be considered when deciding whether to take further action. The notice warned Miss Said that she may be removed from the Register if she did not respond to the letter by 20 March 2026.
20. On 14 March 2026, the GDC received an email from Miss Said, apologising for failing to submit her CPD, explaining that she had forgotten that she was required to provide ten hours of verifiable CPD across two consecutive years and had planned to complete further training later in the year. Miss Said explained that she assumed that as her annual renewal had been completed that all components had been fulfilled. Miss Said provided an activity log, personal development plan and CPD certificates.

Rule 8 Notice

21. On 1 April 2026, the GDC sent a Rule 8 notice to Miss Said's registered address by recorded delivery confirming confirmed that Miss Said had failed to provide a compliant CPD record demonstrating that she had met the minimum requirement for the period 1 January 2024 – 31 December 2025, and as a result, the Registrar had decided to remove her name from the register. It explained that Miss Said's CPD remained deficient as she had completed three hours of verifiable CPD between 1 January 2024 – 31 December 2024 and five hours of verifiable CPD between 1 January 2025 – 31 December 2025. The notice explained that this is not enough to meet the CPD requirements to complete a minimum of ten hours of verifiable CPD for every two consecutive CPD year periods. The notice further explained that the CPD remained deficient because:
 - Miss Said was outstanding two verifiable CPD hours; and,
 - 7 x Certificate of Achievement certificates are out of the requested CPD cycle years.
22. Further, the notice outlined Miss Said had not provided evidence of any exceptional personal circumstances which may have prevented her from completing her CPD as required. Lastly, the notice stated that unless an appeal was submitted, the Registrar's decision would take effect on 1 May 2026.

Notice of Appeal (NOA)

23. On 23 April 2026, the GDC received an NOA from Miss Said which confirmed that she wished to appeal the decision to remove her from the dentist register.
24. Within her NOA, Miss Said apologised for failing to complete the CPD requirements and confirmed that she understands the importance of CPD compliance. Miss Said requested that

the Committee exercise discretion in light of her difficult personal circumstances which affected her ability to complete her CPD on time. [PRIVATE].

25. Miss Said provided evidence of her CPD from January 2024 to December 2025, including the outstanding CPD required. Miss Said confirmed that she had completed 59.5 hours of CPD since the start of her CPD cycle on 1 January 2023. Miss Said confirmed that she is deeply committed to her role as a dentist and to the provision of safe, high-quality care and has consistently prioritised patient wellbeing, and upholds the standards expected within practice. Miss Said submitted that her absence from the register would *"inevitably disrupt and potentially delay essential treatment, causing distress or inconvenience, particularly for those who are vulnerable or require urgent care"*. Miss Said expressed the significant impact that her erasure would have on her Practice. Alongside her NOA, Miss Said provided a letter from her Practice Principle outlining the impact her erasure would have on the care provided to patients.
26. Miss Said explained that it was the first time she had a CPD shortfall since her registration and her professional record has been *"unblemished"*. Miss Said apologised for failing to meet the CPD requirements and expressed that she is fully committed to upholding the standards expected of a registered dental professional and ensures that such a lapse will not occur again.
27. Miss Said concluded that the decision whether to erase a registrant is discretionary and invites the Committee to exercise its discretion under section 34A(2) of the Dentist Act 1984, to allow the appeal and quash the decision to erase her from the register in light of her personal extenuating circumstances.
28. Alongside Miss Said's NOA, she provided the following supporting evidence:
 - Supporting letter from her Practice Principal;
 - Activity Log;
 - Personal Development Plan (PDP); and,
 - CPD certificates.

Further assessment and correspondence with GDC

29. On 27 April 2026, Miss Said's further evidence was assessed by an Operations Officer at the GDC. Miss Said had completed eight hours of verifiable CPD, which was not enough to meet the Enhanced CPD requirements to submit ten hours of CPD over two consecutive years for the years 2024 – 2025. Miss Said is required to provide a further two hours of verifiable CPD evidence for the years 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2025. The GDC gave the following reasons for Miss Said's non-compliance:
 - Miss Said was outstanding two verifiable CPD hours;
 - 7 x certificates provided are dated between 1 January 2026 – 31 December 2026 cycle year which are outside the cycle dates requested;
 - 3 x certificates provided alongside the NOA are duplicates previously assessed and accepted; and,
 - 7 x certificates provided alongside the NOA are duplicates previously assessed and rejected.
30. On 4 June 2026, Miss Said emailed the GDC [PRIVATE]. Furthermore, Miss Said provided additional CPD evidence completed since submitting her appeal.

31. On 8 June 2026, Miss Said's further evidence was assessed by an Operations Officer Council. Miss Said had completed eight hours of verifiable CPD, which was not enough to meet the Enhanced CPD requirements to submit ten hours of CPD over two consecutive years for the years 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2025. Miss Said is required to provide a further two hours of verifiable CPD evidence for the years 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2025. The GDC gave the following reasons for Miss Said's non-compliance:
- Miss Said was outstanding two verifiable CPD hours;
 - 7 x certificates provided are dated between 1 January 2026 – 31 December 2026 cycle year which are outside the cycle dates requested;
 - 3 x certificates provided alongside the NOA are duplicates previously assessed and accepted;
 - 7 x certificates provided alongside the NOA are duplicates previously assessed and rejected; and,
 - 9 x certificates provided on 4 June 2026, are dated between 1 January 2026 – 31 December 2026 cycle year which are outside the cycle dates requested.
32. On 16 June 2026, Miss Said emailed the GDC providing additional CPD certificates. On 16 June 2026, Miss Said's further evidence was assessed by an Operations Officer at the GDC. Miss Said had completed eight hours of verifiable CPD, which was not enough to meet the Enhanced CPD requirements to submit ten hours of CPD over two consecutive years for the years 2024 – 2025. Miss Said is required to provide a further two hours of verifiable CPD evidence for the years 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2025. The GDC gave the following reasons for Miss Said's non-compliance:
- Miss Said was outstanding two verifiable CPD hours;
 - 7 x certificates provided are dated between 1 January 2026 – 31 December 2026 cycle year which are outside the cycle dates requested. 3 x certificates provided alongside the NOA are duplicates previously assessed and accepted;
 - 7 x certificates provided alongside the NOA are duplicates previously assessed and rejected;
 - 9 x certificates provided on 4 June 2026, are dated between 1 January 2026 – 31 December 2026 cycle year which are outside the cycle dates requested; and,
 - 1 x certificate provided on 16 June 2026 is dated between 1 January 2026 – 31 December 2026 cycle year which is outside the cycle dates requested.

Submissions

33. In its written submissions, the GDC submitted that Miss Said is non-compliant with the CPD requirements because she failed to provide a CPD record demonstrating that she had completed verifiable CPD between 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2025, in accordance with Rule 2.
34. The GDC submitted that Miss Said was reminded on numerous occasions of the requirements to complete ten hours of CPD during each period of two consecutive years. Miss Said provided additional information in her NOA that was not available to the Registrar at the time of the Rule 8 notice, and therefore the Committee is invited to consider whether this additional information alters the position, such that the Committee may consider exceptional circumstances exist in this case.

35. The GDC acknowledged Miss Said's challenging personal circumstances **[PRIVATE]**. However, the Registrar submits that Miss Said had sufficient opportunities to complete the required CPD during each period of two consecutive years, and that ought to be aware of the requirements for continued registration with the GDC, which includes ongoing compliance with the CPD requirements. The purpose of the CPD requirements is to ensure that GDC registrants are, at all times, appropriately educated and trained to provide safe care to the public, in line with the Council's over-arching objective.
36. The GDC submitted that Miss Said has notwithstanding any personal/exceptional circumstances, been able to continue to practice. Therefore, compliance with CPD remained mandatory and is a requirement for their continued registration. It further acknowledged that Miss Said has completed additional CPD, but this cannot be taken into account for the relevant period as it falls outside the cycle dates requested. The GDC submitted that it is a Registrant's responsibility to ensure that they meet their CPD requirements, as CPD compliance is a legal requirement of registration.
37. As of 16 June 2026, Miss Said had completed eight hours of verifiable CPD, this is not enough to meet the Enhanced CPD requirements to submit ten hours of CPD over two consecutive years for the years 2024 – 2025.
38. The details contained within Miss Said's NOA are detailed above.

Committee's decision and reasons on appeal

39. The Committee had regard to the documentary evidence provided today and took account of the written submissions made on behalf of the GDC and those made by Miss Said in her NOA. It heard and accepted the advice of the Legal Adviser.
40. The Committee noted that Miss Said has completed eight hours of verifiable CPD between 1 January 2024 – 31 December 2025, leaving a shortfall of two hours. Whilst the Committee was sympathetic to Miss Said's personal circumstances, she has not provided any evidence that the circumstances were exceptional so as to prevent her from complying with her CPD requirements over the period on question.
41. Accordingly, the appeal is dismissed. The Committee wished to remind Miss Said that it is open to her to apply for the restoration of her name to the Register upon completion of the required number of CPD hours.
42. This will be confirmed to Miss Said in writing.
43. That concludes this determination.