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

The role of the Interim Orders Committee (IOC) is to undertake a risk assessment based on the information before it. Its role is to assess the nature and substance of any risk to the public in all the circumstances of the case and to consider whether it is necessary for the protection of the public, is otherwise in the public interest, or is in the registrant’s own interests to impose an interim order on their registration. It is not the role of the IOC to make findings of fact in relation to any charge. That is the role of a differently constituted committee at a later stage.

Neither party was present at today’s hearing, following a request for the review of the interim order to be conducted on the papers. The hearing was conducted remotely via Microsoft Teams in line with the GDC’s current practice.

In the absence of both parties, the Committee first considered the issues of service and whether to proceed with the hearing in the absence of Mr Dossa and any representatives for either party. The Committee accepted the advice of the Legal Adviser on these matters.

**Decision on service of the Notification of Hearing**

The Committee considered whether notice of the hearing had been served on Mr Dossa in accordance with Rules 35 and 65 of the *General Dental Council (Fitness to Practise) Rules Order of Council* 2006 (the Rules). It received a bundle of documents which contained a copy of the Notification of Hearing letter, dated 23 March 2022 and a Royal Mail ‘Track and Trace’ receipt confirming that delivery was made and signed for by ‘DOSSA’ on 26 March 2022. The Notice was also sent to Mr Dossa’s legal representatives. A copy of the letter was also sent to him by email on 23 March 2022.

The Committee was satisfied that the letter contained proper notification of this hearing, including notification that the Committee had the power to proceed with the hearing in Mr Dossa’s absence.

On the basis of the information provided, the Committee was satisfied that notice of the hearing had been served on Mr Dossa in accordance with the Rules.
**Decision on whether to proceed with the hearing in the absence of Mr Dossa and on the papers**

The Committee next considered whether to exercise its discretion under Rule 54 of the Rules to proceed with the hearing in the absence of Mr Dossa and any representative for either party. It remained mindful of the need to be fair to Mr Dossa and to the General Dental Council (GDC), and it had regard to the public interest in the expeditious review of the interim order in place on Mr Dossa’s registration.

The Committee noted the correspondence from Dental Protection dated 28 March 2022, acting on behalf of Mr Dossa. In particular, it noted the following:

“I confirm that Mr Dossa is content for the review to proceed on the papers subject to the GDC’s position remaining that the interim order of conditions ought to be maintained unchanged.”

In all the circumstances, and in the absence of any request for an adjournment, the Committee determined that it was fair and in the public interest to proceed with the hearing on the papers in the absence of Mr Dossa and any representatives for either party.

**Preliminary Matters – to proceed in private**

The Committee noted that the GDC had previously made an application for the entire initial hearing on 15 October 2021 to be held in private under Rule 53(2)(a) of the *GDC (Fitness to Practise) Rules Order of Council 2006* (‘the Rules’).

The decision of the initial IOC was that Mr Dossa’s hearing be heard entirely in private. The Committee considered that given that the concerns are the same issues as before the initial Committee, the Committee accepted the advice of the Legal Adviser. It was satisfied, given the matters to be considered at this hearing, that it would be appropriate in the interests of justice to hold proceedings entirely in private.

**Decision on today’s review**

This is the first review of a conditions of practice order first imposed on Mr Dossa’s registration on 15 October 2022 for a period of 18 months. In reaching its decision in respect of the interim order, the Committee remained mindful that its task is not to find facts, but to conduct an assessment of risk based on the information that has been placed before it. In all its considerations, it applied the principle of proportionality, balancing the public interest with Mr Dossa’s interests. It had regard to the *Interim orders guidance for decision makers – Interim Orders Committee*.

This Committee is not bound by the decision of the previous Committee. However, the Committee notes that both parties are in agreement that the current interim order should remain in place and continue in its current form. The allegations are serious. The Committee determined that they require interim action by the regulator and was satisfied that the risks identified by the previous Committee remain.

Accordingly, the Committee has determined that an interim order remains necessary on the ground of public interest, namely maintaining public confidence in the profession and upholding proper standards in the profession.

The written submissions from the GDC confirm that Mr Dossa has been compliant with the current interim order and requests that the order be continued. The written correspondence from Mr Dossa’s representatives dated 28 March 2022 also confirm compliance and that he is content for the order to continue unaltered.
The Committee was satisfied, based on all the documentation before it, that Mr Dossa has complied with the interim conditions since the initial interim order hearing. It was of the view that the conditions are sufficiently satisfying the public interest and remain proportionate and workable. The Committee determined to continue the current interim order on his registration for the remainder of the term of the order.

The interim conditions as they will continue to appear against Mr Dossa name in the register are as follows:

1. He must notify the GDC promptly of any post he accepts for which GDC registration is required and the Commissioning Body on whose Dental Performers List he is included.

2. If employed, he must provide contact details of his employer and allow the GDC to exchange information with his employer or any contracting body for which he provides dental services.

3. He must inform the GDC of any formal disciplinary proceedings taken against him, from the date of this determination.

4. He must inform the GDC if he applies for dental employment outside the UK.

5. [private]

6. He must make the GDC aware of any complaints about his professional behaviour/conduct raised against him.

7. He must inform within 1 week the following parties that his registration is subject to the conditions, listed at (1) to (4) and (6), above:
   - Any organisation or person employing or contracting with him to undertake dental work
   - Any locum agency or out-of-hours service he is registered with or applies to be registered with (at the time of application)
   - Any prospective employer (at the time of application)
   - The Commissioning Body in whose Dental Performers List he is included or seeking inclusion (at the time of application).

8. He must permit the GDC to disclose the above conditions, (1) to (4) and (6) to (7), to any person requesting information about his registration status.

Next review

Unless there has been a material change of circumstances, the Committee will review the interim order on the papers at an administrative hearing within the next six months. The Committee will be invited by the GDC to confirm the order and Mr Dossa will be asked whether there are any written submissions to be put before the Committee on his behalf. Mr Dossa will then be notified of the outcome in writing following the decision of the Committee.

Alternatively, Mr Dossa is entitled to have the interim order reviewed at an oral hearing. This means that Mr Dossa will be able to attend and make representations, send a representative on his behalf or submit written representations about whether the order continues to be necessary. Mr Dossa must inform the GDC if he would like the interim order to be reviewed at a hearing. Even if Mr Dossa does not request a hearing, where there has been a material change of circumstances that might mean that the order should be revoked, varied or replaced, the Committee will review the order at a hearing to which Mr Dossa and his representatives will be invited.

That concludes this hearing.