



MINUTE of the meeting of the General Teaching Council for Scotland held at Clerwood House, 96 Clermiston Road, Edinburgh on Wednesday 11 June at 10.30am.

Present: Omar Kettlewell (Convener), Sandie Gordon (Vice-Convener), Iain Gibson, Greg Bremner, Graeme Cowie, Christopher Devlin, Helen Happer, Evelyn McLaren, Andrew McPake, Hannah Tweed, Jane Malcolm, Sarah Sinclair, Catherine Whitley, Robert Macmillan, Aillie Rankin, Matthew Moss, Jon Vincent, Susan Leslie, Ian Sharpe, Michael Paul, Lilian Field, Abdul Elghedafi, Stephen Day, Kirsty Mavor, Jennifer Seed, Clare Harker, Elizabeth Russell, Nuzhat Uthmani, Aileen Kennedy, Nazim Hamid

In Attendance: Pauline Stephen – Chief Executive and Registrar (CE)
 Victoria Smith – Strategic Director (SD-VS)
 Jennifer Macdonald – Strategic Director (SD-JM)
 Lee Robertson – Head of Digital (HD)
 Elaine Napier – Head of Education and Standards (HES)
 Lindsey Furness – Head of People and Finance (HPF)
 Katie Hay – Head of Policy (HP)
 Zoe Wilson - Governance Officer (GO)
 Nicola Coutts – Leadership Support Officer (LSO)

Observers: Ann Stewart-Kmicha (Member of Public), Georgia Wallace, GTC Scotland

PUBLIC SESSION

The Convener welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. **Apologies for Absence** - Apologies were received from James Lyon, Gerry McCormick, Anne-Marie Harley, Iain Sinclair, Ann Murdoch, Vivien Whyte
2. **Announcements** – None
3. **Intimation of Any Competent Business** – None
4. **Declarations of Interest** – None

For Discussion and Approval

5. **Minute of the Council Meeting on 28 February 2025 – public session only (24-26Co(23)Min3_public)**

The minute was approved.

6. **Matters Arising** - There were no matters arising.
7. **Chief Executive and Registrar's Report (24-26Co(25)22)**

Members discussed and noted the contents of the report presented by the CE.

Themes discussed:

Strategic Performance Summary – 25/26 Proposal: Members discussed the underpinning drivers and suggested inclusion of service complaints data. Members also discussed overall accessibility of the document.

The new MyGTCS system: the CE reported that Probation Managers from all local authorities had been invited to attend a session and demonstration on the new system. Members were assured of a

positive response to this session by those who had attended (representing 26 local authorities as well as the Scottish Council of Independent Schools).

The Professional Standards Authority review report: Members were advised that the report provides a host of recommendations which will be considered, prioritised and an action plan taken to the PRA committee in August. Members asked about and were advised that Petition 1979 raises concerns about safeguarding across children's services and references GTC Scotland. The petition remains open and GTC Scotland has offered to speak to the Petitions Committee about our role and work.

Members received assurance via discussion of actions being taken as a result of the status change to project P026 Data Catalogue as well as further explanation of the rationale for the net risk increase to the 'People' strategic risk.

Members asked for more information about the ambition of Instrumental Music Instructors (IMIs) to be registered with GTC Scotland. The CE provided background to this work explaining that the matter has been under exploration for many years. It was clarified that any group registered with GTC Scotland on our one register, a Register of Teachers, require to hold a teaching qualification and that this, together with where the requirement to register comes from, are key areas to be addressed. Members were advised that a paper will come to Education Committee in August related to this matter as part of exploring and revisiting work done previously on the vision for our future register and registration.

Action:	Strategic Performance Summary – 25/26 Proposal to be considered further in relation to accessibility, proportionality and making reasonable adjustments to ensure all can access and understand. Consider inclusion of service complaints monitoring.
By:	CE
Date:	20 August 2025

For Noting

8. Financial Position as at 31 March 2025 (24-26Co(25)23)

Members noted the current financial position.

Conclusion of Business

9. Any other competent business

There was no other competent business.

10. Date of next meeting - The next meeting is scheduled to take place at 10.00 am on 17 September 2025