

2

Functions of the Dental Council

2.1 The Dental Council is established under section 4 of the Dentists Registration Ordinance to carry out the following statutory functions in accordance with the Ordinance and the Dentists (Registration and Disciplinary Procedure) Regulations -

- (a) registration of dental practitioners in Hong Kong, including processing applications for registration, applications for permission to use specialist titles and applications for registration of additional qualifications, as well as issuing various types of certificates relating to the practice of dentistry to registered dental practitioners;
- (b) conduct of licensing examinations; and
- (c) disciplinary regulation of dental practitioners in Hong Kong.

2.2 The Council and its various committees and working groups meet regularly to consider and decide on policies to facilitate the proper conduct of their statutory functions. The Council Secretariat provides the executive and secretariat support to the Council at these meetings. During the year, aside from holding routine policy and committee meetings, the Council has processed, with the support of the Secretariat -

- (a) 56 applications to sit for the licensing examinations;
- (b) 56 applications for registration;
- (c) 33 applications for permission to use specialist titles;
- (d) 1,766 applications for renewal of annual practising certificates for dentists whose names are on the register for dentists resident in Hong Kong;
- (e) 97 complaints or information received against registered dentists; and
- (f) over 10,000 general enquiries from members of the profession and the public on registration- and regulation-related matters.