

Consultations
Dental Council of New Zealand
PO Box 10-448
Wellington 6140

Via email

8 December 2023

Tēnā koutou katoa,

RE: Dental Council's Proposal for updates to the naming policy for technical and legal clarifications.

Te Ohu Pūniho Ora o Aotearoa – the New Zealand Oral Health Association Inc (NZOHA) represents over 1100 registered oral health therapists, dental therapists, and dental hygienists, all working across the public and private sectors all throughout Aotearoa. Our association was established to serve the oral health therapy, dental therapy and dental hygiene professions by preserving and promoting their interests and enhancing their professional profile. Our professions are steeped in history, with the establishment of the School Dental Service and training of School Dental Nurses back in 1921, to incorporating dental hygiene training and care from the 1970s, to now having trained oral health therapists who work primarily in the public (Te Whatu Ora) and private sectors throughout Aotearoa.¹

Our members work within the Community Oral Health Service (COHS), which services kōhanga reo, early childhood education centres, Kura Kaupapa Māori, primary schools, and intermediate schools as well as private practices all throughout Aotearoa.

This letter is in response to feedback being sought from the Dental Council of New Zealand – Te Kaunihera Tiaki Niho (DCNZ) on the consultation proposal for updates to the naming policy for legal and technical clarifications.

We would like to thank the DCNZ for consulting with the wider health and oral health sectors on the proposed consultation document.

¹ Please see: <https://www.nzoha.org.nz/the-new-zealand-oral-health-professions-history/>

Email: contact@nzoha.org.nz

www.nzoha.org.nz

We agree with the proposed amendments and justification presented in the consultation document² and the proposed ‘tracked changes’ document³.

Ngā mihi



Anna Holyoake
President – Tūmuaki
On behalf of the NZOHA Executive

² <https://dcnz.org.nz/assets/Uploads/Consultations/2023/Naming-policy/Consultation-document-on-proposed-revised-Naming-policy.pdf>

³ <https://dcnz.org.nz/assets/Uploads/Consultations/2023/Naming-policy/Revised-Naming-policy-for-consultation-November-2023.pdf?vid=7>