



Dear Colleague

SCOTLAND'S ORAL HEALTH PLAN:

A SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION EXERCISE ON THE FUTURE OF ORAL HEALTH

Summary

1. This letter advises of *Scotland's Oral Health Plan – A Scottish Government Consultation Exercise On the Future of Oral Health*. The consultation was launched today, 15th September.

Background

2. Since the publication of the last Dental Action Plan in 2005, the landscape in NHS dentistry has changed considerably, with significant improvements in oral health amongst children, better access for patients to a NHS dentistry, and a substantial increase in the numbers of dentists, and dental staff, routinely providing NHS dental care.

3. The purpose of this consultation exercise is to build on this success story. We face a complex set of challenges around oral health inequalities, an ageing population, and how we shift the emphasis from restorative dentistry to a more preventive-focused approach.

4. The consultation document can be found at the following link:

www.gov.scot/oralhealthplan

15 September 2016

Addresses

For action

Chief Executives, NHS Boards
Consultants in Dental Public Health

Director, Practitioner Services

For information

Chief Executive,
NHS National Services Scotland
Chief Officers, H. & SCPs
Clinical Directors of Public Dental Service

Chief Executive,
NHS Education for Scotland

Enquiries to:

David Notman
Chief Dental Officer and Dentistry Division
1st Floor East Rear
St Andrew's House
EDINBURGH
EH1 3DG

Tel: 0131-244 2467
oralhealthplan@gov.scot

The consultation will be open from 15th September to 8th December 2016 inclusive.

Roadshow Events

5. Central to the consultation exercise is ensuring that dental professionals are informed about the drivers for change and the strategic priorities. Therefore, a series of roadshow events have been organised throughout Scotland. The dates, times and venues for the roadshow programme are included in the attached memorandum, along with the appropriate booking details. The roadshows are available to dentists, dental care professionals, health care professionals with an interest in dentistry, including health care managers. The roadshows will provide an opportunity to learn about the document, participate in discussion and help influence the way forward for NHS dental services in Scotland.

Patient Participation

6. Views of patients are important in how we shape the way forward. As a method of alerting patients to the consultation and to encourage their participation, posters and leaflets will be made available for members of the public to read when they visit their dental practice. These packs will be sent to NHS Boards stores for onward distribution to practices. Each pack will consist of a poster and 100 leaflets for each practice in their Board area. In addition to this, we will also be arranging a number of focus groups for patients which will be held around the country.

Actions

7. **NHS Boards are asked to:**

- Issue the Memorandum to this letter to all dentists and dental bodies corporate on their dental lists, including PDS dentists.
- Ensure that NHS Board stores are aware of the request at paragraph 6, and have made the necessary arrangements to distribute packs **within one week** of the date of this PCA.

8. **Consultants in Dental Public Health:** Issue the Memorandum to this letter to Hospital Dental Services staff.

9. **All addressees on the Action List** are encouraged to circulate this letter and Memorandum to those colleagues and distribution lists with a potential interest in this consultation exercise.

Yours sincerely,

MARGIE TAYLOR
Chief Dental Officer

**DENTISTS/DENTAL BODIES CORPORATE
NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE
GENERAL DENTAL SERVICES**

**SCOTLAND'S ORAL HEALTH PLAN – A SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT
CONSULTATION EXERCISE ON THE FUTURE OF ORAL HEALTH.**

Summary

1. This Memorandum advises dentists and dental bodies corporate (DBC's) of the launch of *Scotland's Oral Health Plan – A Scottish Government Consultation Exercise On the Future of Oral Health*.
2. Since the publication of the last Dental Action Plan in 2005, the landscape in NHS dentistry has changed considerably, with significant improvements in oral health amongst children, better access for patients to a NHS dentistry, and a substantial increase in the numbers of dentists, and dental staff, routinely providing NHS dental care.
3. The purpose of this consultation exercise is to build on this success story. We face a complex set of challenges around oral health inequalities, an ageing population, and how we shift the emphasis from restorative dentistry to a more preventive-focused approach.

Consultation Document

4. The publication of this consultation document represents the start of our stakeholder engagement. We will be talking and listening to patients, the dental team, and other health care professionals, as well as the wider NHS, in how we take dental services forward to meet the challenges facing us in the future.
5. The consultation document can be found at the following link:

www.gov.scot/oralhealthplan

We want as many people as possible to participate in this consultation exercise. A questionnaire is available (at the same link) for people to provide their views on the issues that will help shape the future of NHS dentistry in Scotland.

6. The consultation will run for a period of three months, from 15th September to 8th December 2016 inclusive.

Roadshow Events

7. Central to the consultation is ensuring that dental professionals are informed about the drivers for change and the strategic priorities. Therefore, the consultation exercise will include a sequence of roadshow events with dentists, dental staff, and other NHS staff. Each event will follow a similar format, with a main presentation, and a series of breakout groups on particular themes relevant to the consultation exercise. These events will allow attendees the opportunity to discuss some of the key issues arising from the consultation document with the Chief Dental Officer and other Scottish Government officials, in a structured and informative way.

8. The roadshow events will be held in various towns and cities across Scotland during October and November 2016:

Date	Time	Venue details
3 rd October 2016	7-9pm Registration & hospitality available from 6.15pm	The Apex Quay, 1 West, Victoria Dock Road, Dundee, DD1 3JP
6th October 2016,	7-9pm Registration & hospitality available from 6.15pm	The Hetland Hall Hotel, Carrutherstown, Mouswald, Dumfries, DG1 4JX
10 th October 2016,	7-9pm Registration & hospitality available from 6.15pm	Stirling Highland Hotel, Spittal St, Stirling FK8 1DU
11 th October 2016,	2-4pm & 7-9pm, Registration and hospitality available from 1.30 session 1 and 6.15pm session 2	The Royal College of Physicians, 9 Queen St, Edinburgh EH2 1JQ
19th October 2016,	2-4pm & 7-9pm, Registration and hospitality available from 1.30 session 1 and 6.15pm session 2	Golden Jubilee Conference Centre, Beardmore St, Clydebank G81 4SA
27th October 2016,	7-9pm Registration & hospitality available from 6.15pm	IX The Chester Hotel, 59-63 Queen's Rd, Aberdeen AB15 4YP
28 th October 2016,	7-9pm Registration & hospitality available from 6.15pm	The Mercure hotel, Church Street, Inverness, IV1 1DX
7th November 2016,	7-9pm Registration & hospitality available from 6.15pm	The Vine Conference Centre, 131 Garvock Hill, Dunfermline KY11 4JU
8 th November 2016	7-9pm Registration & hospitality available from 6.15pm	Golden Jubilee Conference Centre, Beardmore Street, Clydebank G81 4SA

14 th November 2016	7-9pm Registration & hospitality available from 6.15pm	The Royal College of Physicians, 9 Queen Street, Edinburgh, EH2 1JQ
17 th November 2016	7-9pm Registration & hospitality available from 6.15pm	Hamilton Racecourse, Bothwell Road, Hamilton, ML3 ODW

9. You can book a place at a session at the following link:

<http://scotlandsoralhealthplan.eventbrite.co.uk>

There are around 80-100 places available for each session, so we encourage you to book early (see below for arrangements). Two events have been made available in Edinburgh and Glasgow to accommodate potential demand for places.

You should also note that the sessions (events) are free to attend. These events will attract 2 hours verifiable CPD but are not eligible for CPD Allowance

Patient Participation

10. The consultation exercise is also for patients. As part of the exercise, we will be distributing posters and leaflets to each dental practice in Scotland in the next few days. It would be helpful if each practice could prominently display the poster and leaflets for patients to take away if they so wish. We intend to run a sequence of focus groups for patients as part of the consultation exercise.

Post-Consultation

11. The Scottish Government will publish the analysis of the consultation responses in the Spring of 2017. A Dental Action Plan will be published in 2017/18.

Enquiries

12. Any enquiries arising from this Memorandum should be taken up with your NHS Board.

Scottish Government
Population Health Directorate
15 September 2016