

NHS:  
PCA(D)(2020)3

Population Health Directorate  
Chief Dental Officer & Dentistry Division



Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
gov.scot

Dear Colleague

## DENTAL WORKING PATTERNS SURVEY

### Summary

1. This letter advises of a survey of dental working patterns being undertaken on behalf of the BDA and Scottish Government.

### Action

2. NHS Boards are asked to issue the Memorandum to this letter to all dentists and DBCs on their dental lists.

Yours sincerely,

TOM FERRIS  
Chief Dental Officer

3 February 2020

---

### Addresses

#### For action

Chief Executives, NHS Boards

Director, Practitioner Services

#### For information

Chief Executive,  
NHS National Services Scotland

Chief Executive,  
NHS Education for Scotland

Interim Directors of Dentistry

---

### Enquiries to:

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

Tel: 0131-244 2842  
NHSgeneraldentalservicesmailbox  
@gov.scot

---

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

**Dental Working Patterns Survey 2018/19 and 2019/20**

1. This Memorandum advises of the publication of NHS Digital's survey of dental working patterns, motivation and morale, opening in January. Its findings are of relevance to dentists because they are considered by the Review Body on Doctor's and Dentist's Remuneration (DDRB) in its deliberations on pay and expenses.
2. The survey is conducted online and invitations were sent out in January to all self-employed primary care dentists who performed some NHS dentistry in 2018/19 and/or 2019/20. It takes only a few minutes to complete and will be open until late February 2020. The British Dental Association (BDA) and the Scottish Government fully endorse the survey and encourage dentists to participate.
3. This survey is open to principal and associate dentists on sub-part A of the first part of the dental list, i.e. dentist contractors.
4. The survey is being conducted online and can be accessed through the website shown below:

[www.digital.nhs.uk/dwps/welcome](http://www.digital.nhs.uk/dwps/welcome)

5. The survey takes only a few minutes to complete and guidance notes are available should you need them. Please note, for personal verification purposes, you will need your General Dental Council (GDC) number to begin. We kindly request you complete the survey as soon as possible and by **Monday 24 February 2020** at the latest. Thank you in advance for taking part.

**Enquiries**

Any enquiries regarding the Dental Working Patterns Survey should be made to NHS Digital at [enquiries@nhsdigital.nhs.uk](mailto:enquiries@nhsdigital.nhs.uk) referencing "Dental Working Patterns Survey" in the subject line, or by phoning 0300 303 5678 (9am-5pm Monday-Friday).

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

Scottish Government Population Health Directorate  
3 February 2020