



NHS England & NHS Improvement
South East Region
York House
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Horley
Surrey
RH6 7DE

SENT BY EMAIL

To: cllr.john.nicholson@btconnect.com

Friday 4th February 2022

Dear Councillor Nicolson

Re: Commissioning of Mandatory Dental Services for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight

NHS England and NHS Improvement - South East is responsible for commissioning mandatory dental services (often referred to as general dental services or Primary Care dental services) for the region.

NHS dental contracts are based on practices delivering a certain number of Units of Dental Activity (UDAs). The number of UDAs which a practice can claim when treating patients is based on the level of complexity of treatment (see Appendix 1).

Several contracts in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight have been receiving non-recurrent funding to deliver temporary UDAs. The offer was not based on need and instead made to any practice that had the ability to deliver more UDAs while the areas of greatest need were assessed. The assessment paused due to the pandemic but has now been completed and has taken into account recent contracts that have been voluntarily handed back. In addition to replacement of temporary UDAs and UDAs from handed back contracts, additional funding has been secured to increase the number of UDAs commissioned in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

In recent procurements we have attempted to commission large and small contracts. The smaller contract sizes could have been as an addition to an existing NHS contract or a practice that is or would be largely private but wished to also deliver some NHS care. Based on our recent experience of commissioning new contracts and the lack of bids received for proposed contracts of less than 7,000 UDAs (7,000 UDAs being approximately 1 full time surgery), we are only planning to commission contracts that would equate to approximately 2 full time surgeries ie, more than 14,000 UDAs as a minimum.

Working with the Healthcare Public Health Team (formerly Public Health England), they have reviewed commissioned services across Hampshire and Isle of Wight. This identifies where there is the greatest need for mandatory dental services based

on the availability of existing services per head of population and the level of deprivation.

Based on this we are planning to commission the following contracts:

- Portsmouth – four contracts of 26,000 UDAs each (total 104,000 UDAs)
- Southampton – 3 contracts of 21,000 UDAs (total 63,000 UDAs)
- Isle of Wight – 1 contract of 25,000 UDAs
- Gosport – 1 contract of 14,000 UDAs
- Havant – 1 contract of 16,000 UDAs

The contracts commissioned will be in addition to recurrent contract with no changes planned to existing recurrent dental provision.

The review of commissioned services has shown that the commissioned activity has not historically been delivered by some existing practices due to challenges with recruitment and retention. A new post with a strong focus on working with system partners to develop support and deliver sustainable Primary Care dental services across areas with the greatest challenges on recruitment and retention is being developed. This post will focus on Portsmouth, the Isle of Wight and South East Hampshire initially. The role will aim to lead the transformation of dental services enabling the local NHS to sustain and embed new ways of working, in addition to improve and support the recovery of services from the impact of Covid-19 pandemic.

We plan to commence the commissioning of the new contracts in March 2022 with the aim of having new contracts in place between January 2023 and 1 April 2023. The dates on which practices can start delivering new services to patients is subject to a number of variables so we will update you when individual contracts will be commencing. Please be assured that we will work to have new contracts in place as soon as possible, but the commissioning process can take some time to work through, including carrying out due diligence to ensure providers are able to deliver the services they bid for and of the required quality. The mobilisation process will also take time in securing and developing practices and the recruitment of new staff. The temporary contracts that are currently in place will continue until 31 March 2023, even where new contracts mobilise before this date.

If you wish to give feedback or you have questions relating to the suite of documents attached to this letter, please contact england.southeastdental@nhs.net by **25 February 2022** in order that procurement intentions and lot data sheets can be finalised in order to proceed to procurement in March 2022.

Yours sincerely



Richard Woolterton
Head of Primary Care (Kent, Surrey & Sussex)
South East Regional Lead for Dentistry

cc A Review of Commissioned Services across Hampshire and Isle of Wight
Procurement Intentions
Pricing Strategy
Service Specification
Lot data sheets

Appendix 1

Classification of Dental Treatment under each of the NHS Bands

1 Unit of Dental Activity - Band 1 Charge – Diagnosis, treatment planning and maintenance

- a) clinical examination, case assessment and report
- b) orthodontic case assessment and report
- c) advice, dental charting, diagnosis and treatment planning
- d) radiographic examination, including panoramic and lateral headplates, and radiological report
- e) study casts including in association with occlusal analysis
- f) colour photographs
- g) instruction in the prevention of dental and oral disease including dietary advice and dental hygiene instruction
- h) surface application as primary preventive measures of sealants and topical fluoride preparations
- i) scaling, polishing and marginal correction of fillings
- j) taking material for pathological examination
- k) adjustments to and easing of dentures or orthodontic appliances
- l) treatment of sensitive cementum

3 units of Dental Activity - Band 2 Charge – Treatment

- a) non-surgical periodontal treatment including root-planing, deep scaling, irrigation of periodontal pockets and subgingival curettage and all necessary scaling and polishing
- b) surgical periodontal treatment, including gingivectomy, gingivoplasty or removal of an operculum
- c) surgical periodontal treatment, including raising and replacement of a mucoperiosteal flap, curettage, root planing and bone resection
- d) free gingival grafts
- e) permanent fillings in amalgam, composite resin, synthetic resin, glass ionomer, compomers, silicate or silico-phosphate, including acid etch retention
- f) sealant restorations
- g) endodontic treatment of permanent or retained deciduous teeth
- h) pulpotomy
- i) apicectomy
- j) extraction of teeth
- k) transplantation of teeth
- l) oral surgery including surgical removal of cyst, buried root, unerupted tooth, impacted tooth or exostosed tooth and alveolectomy
- m) soft tissue surgery in relation to the buccal cavity and lips
- n) frenectomy, frenoplasty and frenotomy
- o) relining and rebasing dentures including soft linings
- p) addition of tooth, clasp, labial or buccal flange to dentures
- q) splints (other than laboratory fabricated splints) in relation to periodontally compromised teeth and in connection with external trauma
- r) bite raising appliances (other than laboratory fabricated appliances)

12 Units of Dental Activity - Band 3 Charge – Provision of Appliances

- a) porcelain, composite or acrylic masticque veneers, including acid etch retention
- b) inlays, pinlays, onlays and palatal veneers, in alloys containing 60% or more fine gold, porcelain, composite resin and ceramics

Crowns including any pin or post aids to retention

- c) full or three quarter crown cast in alloys containing not less than 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % fine gold or platinum or palladium
- d) full or jacket crown cast in alloys containing stainless steel or cobalt chromium or nickel chromium
- e) crown in porcelain, synthetic resin and other non-metallic crowns
- f) full or jacket crowns in alloys containing not less than 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % fine gold or platinum or palladium, or alloys containing stainless steel or cobalt chromium or nickel chromium, with thermally bonded porcelain
- g) jacket crown thermally bonded to wrought platinum coping
- h) prefabricated full or jacket crown, including any pin or post retention
- i) crowns in other materials

Bridges including any pin or post aids to retention

- j) bridges in alloys containing 60% or more fine gold with or without thermally bonded facings
- k) bridges cast in alloys containing stainless steel, cobalt chromium or nickel chromium, with or without thermally bonded facings
- l) acid etch retained bridges
- m) bridges in other materials
- n) provision of full (complete) or partial dentures, overdentures and obturators in synthetic resin or metal or both synthetic resin and metal, including any cast or wrought metal components or aids to retention
- o) orthodontic treatment and appliances
- p) other custom made appliances excluding sports guards

1.2 Units of Dental Activity - Urgent Treatment under Band 1 Charge

- a) examination, assessment and advice
- b) radiographic examination and radiological report
- c) dressing of teeth and palliative treatment
- d) pulpectomy or vital pulpotomy
- e) re-implantation of a luxated or subluxated permanent tooth following trauma including any necessary endodontic treatment
- f) repair and refixing of inlays and crowns
- g) refixing a bridge
- h) temporary bridges
- i) extraction of not more than 2 teeth
- j) provision of post-operative care including treatment of infected sockets
- k) adjustment and alteration of dentures or orthodontic appliances
- l) urgent treatment for acute conditions of the gingivae or oral mucosa, including treatment for pericoronitis or for ulcers and herpetic lesions, and any necessary oral hygiene instruction in connection with such treatment
- m) treatment of sensitive cementum or dentine
- n) incising an abscess
- o) other treatment immediately necessary as a result of trauma
- p) not more than 1 permanent filling in amalgam, composite resin, synthetic resin, glass ionomer, compomers, silicate or silico-phosphate including acid etch retention