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Greater Glasgow Primary Care NHS Trust



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Dear Sir/Madam

Re: CLYDEBANK OHAT RESPONSE TO SE MODERNISATION DOCUMENT

GDP Perspective

Glasgow LDC has already responded to the consultation document and has highlighted within that document the areas, which should be addressed in order to maintain the delivery of NHS dentistry. For the Oral Health Action Teams (OHAT) to continue and realise their full potential within a framework of general dental practice, consideration should be given to the following factors.

BUDGET

Greater Glasgow Health Board currently has a budget deficit of over £20 million. Resources are limited, and it is up to others to prioritise funding. However if funding is reduced in the coming years, OHAT's will be unable to function effectively.

WORKFORCE

With an increasing shortage of dentists willing to work in deprived areas given the difficulties of practice funding, access to a dentist will become an increasing problem. Dentists can barely cope with the dental repair problem given the high caries rates in Depcat 5-7. PCD's are not yet reaching the workplace, and an attractive career path does not exist within dental practice, we should support them when entering the workforce.

CONTRACT

Much has been said about the need for a new contract that pays GDPs in a different way; suffice to say that currently IOS payments will not attract dentists to participate in the work of the OHAT's. We should support and strengthen the emphasis on prevention.



PREMISES

Most GDP premises are wholly unsuited to the delivery of preventive services for children. They also preclude the concept of multi disciplinary working within general practice.

COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERSHIPS

An opportunity was missed with the formation of LHCCs in Glasgow to incorporate mainstream NHS dentistry into the fold.

There exists a new opportunity to do so with the formation of Community Health Partnerships, and Boards should be encouraged to fully engage with representatives of the profession at an early stage.

SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

The concept of a Dental Directorate and Oral Health Action Teams is unique to Glasgow. The SE should recognise the work, which has already been done in Glasgow as it may yet prove to be a viable model for the provision and delivery of care in any future model for GDS.

Yours sincerely

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