

Meeting between Dorset PCT and Dorset LDC
20th October 2008 at 3.30 pm
At Corfe Mullen Dental Practice

1. 2009 Contract negotiations

- How many dentists did not reach their UDA targets?
There are 73 providers in Dorset of which 50% did not reach their UDA target. 40% were outside the 96%.
- How is the clawback going to be implemented?

Entirely up to the dentist. Cheque/online or in instalments preferably by the end of March, but there is flexibility depending on their circumstances.

2. Is the PCT going to allow practices to incorporate for tax reasons?

Dental contracts are not allowed. However, the PCT was unsure whether dental earnings were allowed to be incorporated. The PCT is going to look into whether this is possible.

3. Can the PCT give us tendering guidelines to put on the website and can dentists be given advanced warnings of any tendering that the PCT may be considering so they can get their information packs together?

The PCT only has old guidelines at present, when the new guidelines have been put into place they will be happy to place them on the website.

4. Is there any information on the working of the Oral Health Strategy that the LDC meet to give feedback on?

The PCT are going ahead with the OHS, they are commissioning Health Care Matters (the same company as B+P). New tendering will not be commissioned until this strategy is published and the PCT has a better idea of where the need is.

5. PASSE Scheme

Funding has been made available £7,500. The PCT would like to have a better idea of the structure that is going to be put in place. The Chairman felt it may be useful for a PCT to attend some of the training.

6. Orthodontics

- With the hospital having a 18 week waiting time, I would suggest that the PCT would be keen to get the GDP's waiting time for orthodontics down to 18 weeks, to stop work being placed at the hospital (which is more expensive than a practice based orthodontist). There will obviously be a short term increase in funding for these

orthodontists, how is this increase in man power going to be handled?
And where is the money coming from?

PCT feels it would be difficult to achieve the 18 week target, the PCT is working towards a 1 year waiting list. (At present it is 2 years).

7. Maternity Cover and Paternity Cover

- Can the PCT give information on what rights the providers and the performers have i.e. what benefit they can get and what cover is needed?

No maternity claims at present but 4-5 paternity claims. It is the Providers responsibility to complete the UDA's. The UDA's can be given back but the PCT would rather the activity than the money back. Maternity pay is paid directly to the provider who then passes it on to the performer.

8. Can I have the PCT's thoughts on taking on a partner as a means of selling the practice without using goodwill?

The PCT will allow a partner to be taken on. If the practitioner is the sole trader then the contract will have to be changed to allow a partner to be taken on but the PCT is happy to do this, their only concern is the continuation of care.

9. Poole PCT gave defibrillators to all doctors' practices free of charge. Can this not be done for dental practices?

10. Newsletter

Communication with the PCT was discussed and poor levels of responses was noted. The PCT was asked to acknowledge dentists communication even if there was no further answer to their question.

11. Development and Endo Money?

A letter concerning endo money has been recently sent and a letter concerning development money should arrive within the next few weeks.

A practice has recently closed in Wimborne and rather than open a new practice before the Oral Health Strategy has been completed the PCT has been talking to practices in the area to take on non-recurring UDA's. The Chairman was concerned that if any extra UDA's were allocated, enough time needed to be allocated before the end of the year for them to be completed.

The PCT is looking for a Quality Initiative and would like the LDC to come up with any markers they feel would help improve the quality of dentistry and care for patients if they were implemented. The PCT is hoping to start an assessment tool kit in January and any input would be appreciated. Chairman was concerned that the PCT has slippage in its time scale and initiatives need to be more tightly controlled.

