

Hello all, welcome to the new LDC website.

If you have any information which you think other dentists in Dorset would find valuable, e-mail it to the clerk who will endeavour to put it on the website. The contact details are on the website.

The last LDC meeting was 20th October 2006 when representatives from the two PCT's were invited i.e. Bournemouth and Poole, and Dorset.

We were informed that there was a 25% shortfall in patient charge revenue; this was not just in Dorset, but all over the country. This means that funds which may have been used to fund extra UDA's and growth is unlikely.

We were also informed that dentists not within 4% of their targets would be asked to re-pay the overpayment and possibly reduce the UDA's in 2007/08. . There did not seem to be a great deal of leeway in their position (as they have no money).

Out of hours was also discussed and we were informed that the PCT's were happy with the way the system was running.

The new triage system in place is now heavily filtered and only very urgent cases are liable to be seen. If your patients have problems accessing this service we have been asked to point them towards the complaints officer at the PCT.

Bournemouth and Poole PCT have employed a dental nurse co-ordinator to look at where there is need for dental nurse training, so hopefully there should be more courses in the near future. This is particularly important as the dental nurse registration will be coming in 2008. The LDC has also been informed that dental nurses have access to occupational health so if they have any trouble getting the doctors to sign the medical form for the registration they can contact them.

Both the PCT's for Dorset are working on their share of money given to them to improve NHS Dental services. Once they have decided how to use the funding they have informed the LDC that they will send us a copy of where the money is going. We will hopefully then put this information on the website.

Kind Regards

Jonathan Mynors-Wallis

(Dorset LDC Chairman)