

31 March 2023

Dear

ATISN 17229 – Dental Contracts

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) (FOIA) received on 3 March. You requested the following:

- 1. What was the Dental DDRB contract uplift agreed by government for contract year 2019/2020 and what date was this applied?*
- 2. What was the Dental DDRB contract uplift agreed by government for contract year 2020/2021 and what date was this applied?*
- 3. What was the Dental DDRB contract uplift agreed by government for contract year 2021/2022 and what date was this applied?*
- 4. What was the Dental DDRB contract uplift agreed by government for contract year 2022/2023 and what date was this applied?*
- 5. What would the total percentage uplift from 2018/2019 to 2022/2023? How is this translated into figures for patient metrics for practices undertaking contract reform 2021/2022?*
- 6. Were the metrics for each practice undertaking contract reform in 2022/2023 taken from the practice contract value as of 2018/2019 or using the uplifted contract value for the latest financial year presumably 2021/2022*
- 7. If historic patient metrics based on 2018/2019 data were used in the contract reform contracts for 2022/2023 (ie 1280 patients per £170,000), what uplift was applied to practice contract values to bring this in line with DDRB uplifts? eg reduction in number of patients per £170,000*
- 8. If no uplift was applied, what was the reason for this?*
- 9. If no uplift was applied to the metrics, was it made clear to practices that they are working to a patient cost average of £93 (as per Andrew Pryce response) based on 2018/2019 and they had not received the equivalent uplifts awarded for subsequent years?*
- 10. Has any uplift been applied to contract reform metrics for 2022/2023, if so what was the uplift and is it in line with DDRB agreement for full year? Have all subsequent DDRB uplifts been applied since 2018/2019?*

Our Response

1. The agreed uplift was 2.5% as set out in The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the General Dental Services Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) Directions 2019. These came into force on 6 December 2019 and backdated the uplift to 1 April 2019

2. The agreed uplift was 2.3% as set out in The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the General Dental Services Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) Directions 2020. These came into force on 25 November 2020 and backdated the uplift to 1 April 2020.

3. The agreed uplift was 3% as set out in The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the General Dental Services Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No. 2) Directions 2021. These came into force on 19 October 2021 and backdated the uplift to 1 April 2021.

4. The agreed uplift was 4.5% as set out in The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the General Dental Services Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) Directions 2023. These came into force on 14 January 2023 and backdated the uplift to 1 April 2022.

5. The overall percental uplift is 12.86%. In 2021/22 the new patient metric was set at 2 new patients per £165,000 of ACV. Providing this and other requirements were being met this triggered 100% ACV payment instead of 90%.

6, 7, 8, 9 and 10. The £165,000 from 2021/22 was used as the starting point. This was uplifted by 3% to reflect the 2021/22 DDRB uplift and rounded up to £170,000 to start 2022/23. The DDRB uplift has been applied in-year for 2022/23 which means practices are now expected to achieve 1280 historic and 260 new patients per £177,650 of ACV. This will be the starting point for 2023/24 and any DDRB uplift will be applied in year.

Next steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ

or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire,
SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely,