Dear Caroline,

**Dental contract value uplift for 2020-21**

Further to our discussion on 29 July I am writing to advise you formally of the Welsh Government’s decision regarding the uplift of dental contracts for 2020-21.

The Minister for Health and Social Services has agreed an uplift of 2.3% to gross contract values for General Dental Services Contracts and Personal Dental Services Agreements.

As we discussed, the Doctors’ and Dentists’ Review Body (DDRB) again restricted their recommendation to the uplift in pay net of expenses. We therefore applied the same formula approach as in previous few years using the coefficients and values in Appendix E of the DDRB’s 2020 report.

We have not applied an abatement for staff costs or any other elements, and RPI has been used rather than CPI. Applying this approach results in an overall increase in contracts of 2.3%. In taking this approach we would expect the benefits of the uplift to be passed on to all members of practice dental teams.

The Statements of Financial Entitlement will now be amended to reflect the increase, backdated to 1 April 2020. We’ll let you know when this has been actioned.

In light of the continuing DDRB decision to restrict recommendations to the uplift in pay only, we also discussed the continued use of the formula approach and whether there are better ways of addressing the issue of practice income and expenses.
You confirmed BDA Wales hasn't changed its position on the approach taken but we agreed we would continue to keep this issue under review, and to consider any other approaches on gaining a greater understanding on general dental practice expenses.

Yours sincerely,

Colette Bridgman
Prif Swyddog Deintyddol
Chief Dental Officer

cc: Tom Bysouth