



T: 0300 244 4000
E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot

NHS Dental Teams

20th August 2021

Dear NHS Dental Teams

I am writing to you to mark the implementation of the Government's 100 day commitment to remit the NHS patient charge to all young people, aged 18 to 25 inclusive, from Tuesday 24 August.

Thank you once again for all your outstanding efforts over the last challenging period and I look forward to engaging with you further as the Government continues to support practice recovery and improved NHS dental services for patients.

I also wish to take the opportunity to outline some further measures that we are taking to support NHS dental recovery through supporting enhanced NHS dental capacity to improve patient access to routine dental care. The Government is clear that patients wish to access their dentist for routine appointments but recognises that the sector is not at present near pre pandemic 'business as usual'.

We are supporting the sector to recover and build back pre-pandemic capacity through the provision of £5M funding to improve surgery ventilation. Additionally, the Government will allocate a further £7.5M to the sector for the purchase of electric motors and speed increasing 'red band' hand pieces. These can be used in a wide range of clinical procedures where standard non-AGP precautions may be applied as they can produce minimal aerosol (SDCEP). Further details on how practices can apply for this additional funding will be made available in the next few weeks.

Meanwhile, the Government is in urgent 4 nations discussions on IPC measures and we expect further guidance at the end of next month. The Government understands that fallow times continue to add to the backlog and pressures that dentists are facing, and that is why we are keen to engage with the sector to see how we can assist.

We will share further information with you as soon as possible.

Humza Yousaf

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG
www.gov.scot



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE

Accredited
Until 2020

