



Department of
Health
An Roinn Sláinte
Mánnystrie O Poustie
www.health-ni.gov.uk

For the attention of Mr Tristen Kelso

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Your Ref:
Our Ref:

Date: 26 October 2022

Dear Tristen

STATEMENT OF DENTAL REMUNERATION 2022/23

I write to advise that the Department has agreed a 4.5% net increase to fees and allowances for contractor General Dental Practitioners (GDPs) for financial year 2022/23. This is in line with recommendations made in the 50th Annual Report of the Doctor and Dentists' Review Body (DDRB), and equates to a total recurrent investment of approximately £4.84m per annum.

This SDR uplift includes an increase of 4.5% in relation to dental expenses. Minister appreciates that this is less than the 11.15 the BDA proposed in your letter dated 21 July 2022, however given the financial pressures currently facing the Department, this a further significant and recurring investment in GDS. Minister's decision also reflects the approach to expenses provided in other parts of the UK.

As you will be aware, Minister is unable to announce the immediate implementation of these pay awards locally, as Northern Ireland still does not have an agreed Executive Budget for 2022/23. Whilst elements of the pay uplift are outwith the control of the Department of Health, particularly this year, we will do everything possible to implement as soon as possible.

In order to be in a position to implement as soon as possible, I will forward you an electronic copy of the draft 2022/23 Statement of Dental Remuneration (SDR) for your consideration and comment as soon as it is available.

A communication to dental practices regarding the pay uplift decision will be made as soon as possible.

I trust this information is useful and am happy to discuss any of the details in the coming weeks.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael O'Neill". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael O'Neill
Head of General Dental and Ophthalmic Services

cc: Caroline Lappin
Robbie Davis
Michael Donaldson