

Please see below for responses to additional Member queries submitted.

Minute number 91d

Question:

At what point Dentistry will be transferred from NHS England to ICB and if any plan is already being worked on to recruit/solve the shortages to NHS dentists across Hampshire?

Response from the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board:

The recruitment of dentists is recognised as a national issue but there are a number of opportunities available to the ICB with the transfer of responsibility from NHS England to help bring more dentists to our area.

As discussed at the last HASC meeting, a workforce strategy for Hampshire and Isle of Wight is in place. We will be focussing our recruitment on roles we need locally, including dentists.

Following a successful Dental Summit held in Portsmouth last summer, a steering group has now been established with University of Portsmouth, led by Professor Chris Louca, to progress a bid for a Centre for Dental Development at the University of Portsmouth Dental Academy. This would attract people to train in the area and, we hope, many will choose to remain living and working locally.

More widely, Health Education England has published 'Advancing Dental Care (ADC) Review Report', the culmination of a three-year review to identify and develop a future dental education and training infrastructure that produces a skilled multi-professional oral healthcare workforce, which can best support patient and population needs within the NHS. The Government is currently considering the next steps.

We accept these initiatives will take time to develop and the more immediate steps we are taking to increase NHS dental provision in Hampshire is through the procurement of new NHS contracts locally.