

7 May 2023

Dear

ATISN 17481 – Dental Contracts

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 09 May. You requested:

Please can you clarify the following and with an individual response for each question:

- 1) What figures were the payments for the contract variation 2022/2023 based upon? Either they are based on £165,000 per 1280 patients as stated in your response or £170,000 per 1280 as stated in Andrew Pryce's response?*
- 2) How has this figure for payment been calculated and from what year? -please give detailed calculations to support the calculations which should include total funding for NHS GDS contracts, total number of patients treated, total number of multiple courses of treatment on patients within the same year and Welsh governments spend per patient per course of treatment.*
- 3) Why is there discrepancy between the figures given in this email and the figures published by Andrew Pryce? These are FOIA responses and yet they differ dramatically. If Andrew Pryce's response is in correct has an apology been published to the dental profession?*
- 4) The current calculations/information in your recent FOIA response further reduce funding to GDP's compared with Andrew Pryce's calculations and are effectively a pay cut to each and every GDP contract. Please produce calculations year on year for each of the two figures 1280/&170k and 1280/£165K including appropriate uplifts to show the discrepancy any difference in contract values from 2019 onwards.*

Response

- 1) The 2022/23 contract variation offer was made on the basis of 1280 historic patients per £170,000 of annual contract value. This was increased to £177,650 following the implementation of the Doctors' and Dentists' Review Body recommendation to uplift pay by 4.5%. This was backdated to April 2022 which means the final figure for 2022/23 was 1280 historic patients per £177,650 of annual contract value.
- 2) The concept of activity being linked to a given contract value was first introduced in 2021/22. This was a Covid recovery year and practices we offered 100% of their annual contract value if, in addition to the other requirements for payment of 90% of their contract value, they saw 2 new patients per £165,000 of annual contract value. The

£165,000 was intended to represent a dentist working full time delivering NHS care and treatment and was based on delivering 6000 UDAs at £27.50 per UDA. This was subsequently increased to £170,000 reflecting the 2021/22 DDRB recommended uplift of 3% for 2021/22 and increased again to £177,650 reflecting the DDRB recommended uplift of 4.5% for 2022/23.

- 3) We do not believe there is a discrepancy and we have provided further clarity above.
- 4) We disagree with this statement. Our previous response clearly demonstrates that uplifts to pay have been made in line with the DDRB recommendations. Taking 2018/19 as the starting point, 1.46m unique patients were treated at a cost of £135.7m which calculates as £93 per patient. The table below shows how this number would have increased with the DDRB uplift and you will note from the final line that the contract variation offer is 10% more than if the DDRB uplifts alone had been applied.

Year	Uplift	Fee per Patient
2018/19	-	£ 93.00
2019/20	2.50%	£ 95.33
2020/21	2.30%	£ 97.52
2021/22	3%	£ 100.44
2022/23	4.50%	£ 104.96
2022/23 Actual		£ 115.36

Next Steps

The request you sent me contains personal information about you - for example, your name and address. The Welsh Government will be the data processor for this information and, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation, it will be processed in order to fulfil our public task and meet our legal obligations under the Act to provide you with a response.

We will only use this personal information to deal with your request and any matters which arise as a result of it. We will keep your personal information and all other information relating to your request for three years from the date on which your request is finally closed. Your personal information will then be disposed of securely.

Under data protection legislation, you have the right:

- to be informed of the personal data we hold about you and to access it
- to require us to rectify inaccuracies in that data
- to (in certain circumstances) object to or restrict processing
- for (in certain circumstances) your data to be 'erased'
- to (in certain circumstances) data portability
- to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) who is our independent regulator for data protection

For further information about the information which the Welsh Government holds and its use, or if you wish to exercise your rights under the GDPR, please see contact details below:

Data Protection Officer
Welsh Government
Cathays Park
CARDIFF
CF10 3NQ
Email: DataProtectionOfficer@gov.wales

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,