SCOTTISH COUNCIL

17 August 2017

Report

Scottish Council met on Thursday 17 August 2017 at the Doubletree by Hilton, Dunblane Hydro.

It was noted that Scottish Government (SG) aim to publish an Oral Health Improvement Plan by the end of 2017.
The analysis of responses to the Scottish Government Consultation Exercise on the Future of Oral Health and the roadshow events can be found at: http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/06/2471

2. DDRB and Pay Award 2017-18
SG had accepted the DDRB recommendations for general dental practitioners (GDPs) in 2017/18 of 1% on pay, net of expenses.
The Chair, Vice Chair and a member of the Scottish Dental Practice Committee (SDPC) met with the Chief Dental Officer (CDO) on 4 May 2017 to discuss funding proposals as part of the uplift in expenses by SG. A break-down of the estimated expense costs totalled £23.1m.
Following negotiations, SG announced a 2.25% increase in item of service fees, up from 1.61% in 2016/17. Notification was awaited as to when arrangements would be put in place for paying the award.

3. Scottish Council Oral Cancer Working Group
Members of the Oral Cancer Working Group and BDA Scotland met with the CDO on 14 June 2017. Items for discussion included a gold standard referral pathway for mouth cancer, GDP oral cancer screening and increasing awareness within the dental and medical profession of mouth cancer.
BDA Scotland is working collaboratively with the Oral Health Foundation in support of Mouth Cancer Action Month in November 2017. The campaign aims to engage with GDPs and Dental Care Professionals in Scotland to enable them to take a leading role in reducing the impact of oral and throat cancer through increasing awareness, early detection and promoting better outcomes for patients. A ‘Dear Dentist’ letter and information pack will be sent to all GDPs by BDA Scotland in September. As a second phase in the campaign, BDA Scotland aims to provide similar packs to general medical practitioners and pharmacists.
BDA Scotland is currently in discussions with MSPs to agree a sponsor for an event at the Scottish Parliament in November 2017 in order to raise the profile of mouth and throat cancer at a political level.

4. Shortage of Hepatitis B Vaccines
Council discussed the current worldwide shortage of Hepatitis B vaccine and the inconsistent advice being given to dentists.

5. Occupational Health Service Funding
It was reported that a letter had been written to the CDO in July 2017 about the lack of Occupational Health Service funding in Scotland for GDPs, something that is provided to GMP colleagues and their clinical teams. The letter formally asked the CDO to consider investing in
this essential and critically important service for GDPs in Scotland. A reply had not yet been received but this matter would be discussed at a meeting between the SDPC Executive and SG at a meeting due to be held on 23 August 2017.

6. **Age Concern Scotland**
Members of Scottish Council and BDA Scotland met with representatives from Age Scotland on 17 August 2017 to discuss how they could work collaboratively in raising awareness of the growing demands of an elderly population. Age Scotland is a charity which represents older people in Scotland over the age of fifty and plan to hold ‘Planning for your future’ and ‘Preparing for your retirement’ workshops and training days in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee and Aberdeen. Further information can be found at: [http://www.ageuk.org.uk/scotland/](http://www.ageuk.org.uk/scotland/)

7. **Consultations**
BDA Scotland has responded to a number of consultations recently including:

- GDC Shifting the Balance – a better, fairer system of dental regulation
- Scot Government ‘Discussion Document: National Health & Social Care Workforce Plan
- Duty of Candour Procedure (Scotland) Regulations 2017
- Updated SDCEP Prevention and Management of Dental Caries in Children Guidance
- Health & Sport Committee: Innovation & Technology
- Health & Sport Committee: Clinical Governance
- Health & Sport Committee: Draft Budget 2017-18

BDA Scotland responses can be found at: [https://www.bda.org/scottishcouncil-consultations](https://www.bda.org/scottishcouncil-consultations)

8. **Ongoing Items for Future Discussion**
Scottish Government Oral Health Improvement Plan
Scottish Council Oral Cancer Working Group
Review of Oral Medicine Services in Scotland

9. **Arrangements for the Next Meeting**
The next meeting will take place on 7 December 2017 at 13:30hrs at the BDA Scotland Office.

Adrian Hart
Chair, Scottish Council
August 2017