

For the attention of Mr Tristen Kelso
NI Director
British Dental Association (BDA)
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Date: 21 January 2026

Dear Tristen,

STATEMENT OF DENTAL REMUNERATION 2025/26

As previously advised, the Department is implementing a net increase to fees and allowances for contractor General Dental Practitioners (GDPs) that amounts to 4.04% for the financial year 2025/26.

In his announcement in November 2025, the Minister indicated that the pay award for 2025/26 would be implemented in February 2026. However, due to the complexities associated with the implementation of the GDS payments, BSO have advised that this will not be feasible. This is largely due to the lead in time required by their 3rd party software providers to update their systems. BSO have therefore advised that they anticipate making payment to GDPs in June and July 2026. That is, a proportion of the arrears payments will be made in June, and the balance will be paid in July. .

I appreciate that this will be disappointing, but you will appreciate that this aspect of the uplift process is outside of the Department's control.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'LThompson'.

Leanne Thompson
HEAD OF GENERAL DENTAL & OPHTHALMIC SERVICES