**NORTH WALES ORAL HEALTH STRATEGY GROUP**

**Thursday 19th October 2023 2Via MS Teams**

**Attendees:**

Peter Greensmith (PG) Assistant Director for NW Dental Services

Sandra Sandham (SS) Clinical Director of North Wales Community Dental

Tracey Taylor (TT) HEIW Dental Educator

Dan Naylor (DN) LDC Secretary

Angie Tyrer (ATy) Senior Dental Contracts Manager

Adrian Thorp (ATh) Dental Foundation Training Programme Director

Paul Brocklehurst (PB) Consultant in Dental Health

Rebecca Hollinshead (RH) Service Improvement Lead, North Wales Dental Service

Jackie Dyson (JD) notes

**ACTION LOG**

Updated after Oct 2023 meeting

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| **October 2023** | | |
| **Actions** | **By whom** | **By when** |
| **1.3 Matters Arising**  **2.5 – Support for Dental Technicians**  SS to seek out Tech Leads in school  TTpick up on HEIW work stream . | SS  TT |  |
| **June 2023** | | |
| **Actions** | **By whom** | **By when** |
| **2.3 Changes to DF Selection**  - *PG and RH link with EW and ATh to discuss who*  *would be needed to take this forward and set up a*  *session* | PG | **19 Oct 2023**  Talks taken place PG ,HEIW. EW and ATh, looking to reintroduce the longitudinal scheme and recruit outside of the national process and address all in one go and tie in the WERO work – if works look at how to do that outside of the longitudinal scheme for the general DF population**. Continued conversation - see Minutes** |
| **2.4 GDS Event (other meetings)**  - *PG, TT, BH, ATy to discuss best way to have*  *good spread of both meeting across the year* |  | **19 Oct**  Discussed as part of agenda |
| **2.5 Support for Dental Technicians**  - *Group to make representation to HEIW to make*  *representation to Welsh Government – if want*  *dentistry and technicians they need to come up*  *with a strategy for it*   * *PG look into Aspire to Care* * *Check information on Careers website* | PG  PG  FS | **19 Oct 2023**  PG attended HEIW Primary Care Dental Strategic Workforce Steering Group and asked for technicians to be added into workforce planning for support and development. Need education in this area. **See Minutes**  PG has provided Aspire to Care with links to various organisations including Andrew  **PG to speak to to FS re careers website** |
| **2.7 Orthodontic Extractions**  *- BL to follow up suggestion of using dental*  *students in Wrexham and speak with ID* | BL | **19 Oct –** PG to follow up with Ben. ID does help with extractions via student clinic but nothing formal in place. See Minutes/ |

**DRAFT MINUTES**

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| Agenda  No | Agenda Item | Action |
| **1.1**  **1.2**  **1.3** | **Introductions & Apologies**   * Mostafa Hassaan introduced to the meeting, Mostafa taking over from Jeremy Williams as LDC Chair in next few months. Mike Strother taking over from Dan Naylor as LDC Secretary. DN and JW to remain as LDC committee members going forward * Apologies: Jeremy Williams, Ben Lewis, Adrian Thorp, Emma Woolley, Fiona Sandom, Jim Mcguigan   **Minutes of last meeting**   * June minutes agreed as accurate record   **Matters Arising/Actions last meeting**  2.3 Changes to DF Selection continued from Action Tracker   * MH talked about WERO - two rounds didn’t get an FD then got it on national recruitment therefore apprehensive of why would want to remove from national recruitment. PG idea is to keep both routes. * PG meeting with CDO and Liverpool University 20th Oct - they have list of students that want to be placed in NW. * DN expressed interest in being included in part of this conversation, would like to be involved in anything that would allow access into dental schools to tell them how things are in Primary Care * PG will ask Kirsty re plans with WERO – not sure if is nationally across Wales, * noted still have the students outreach scheme (where dental students from Cardiff come to Wrexham DC) can’t take Liverpool and Cardiff   2.5 Support for Dental Technicians continuation   * discussed difficulties in getting Technicians – need to get education in this area to generate interest, particularly in schools design and tech departments .   **ACTION:** SS to seek out Tech Leads in school   * HEIW do put on courses etc and is on their three monthly Cardiff meetings to discuss and are also on BCU career pathways - will continue to include * Need to prioritise this and dental as a whole, get in early need to look and push forward.   **ACTION** pick up on HEIW work stream   * Careers Ville – need to push to this site to schools to make sure parents of secondary school pupils are aware of it, it is a good site for inspiration. TT will feed this back - Is on agenda to address locally   2.7 Continued discussion around Ortho   * Mostafa query re sec care * 2 points from Dan - re bonding issues with parents and Ortho. Discussion over asking other dentists to assist with extractions? PG would prefer to have conversation first, but is open to have talks. ATy advised contractually practice can’t refer for mandatory services – understand what saying but also if practice not doing extractions are they filling their contract as well - it’s about how to manage patient journey within regulations. This is something Dan would like to see as it could solve a lot of problems for a lot of people but understand have to be mindful of who’s sending what where and be able to monitor it * PG referred to ATh work around triaging of the Intermediate Tier oral surgery referrals * reminder that DES accreditation now open for oral surgery |  |
|  | **For Discussion** |  |
| **2.1** | **DCT Recruitment – SS**   * Have 8 overall in North Wales, 2 in CDS (1 is a CDS rotational with the acute unit and the other split between CDS and dental public health (this one was not recruited to this year). * PG advised DCT disparity was talked about in the workforce meeting * SS aware that HEIW taking it further and CDO is trying to get the pay differences sorted which might help. |  |
| **2.2** | **System Reform**  PG has asked Andrew if BCU can lead some of the system reform work in North wales as BCU seem to be closer to working in that way than any other health boards currently. Would be good for the work here to be recognised in terms of the barriers being broken between primary care and secondary care in North Wales. PG will continue to push Andrew around these things.  IHC medical directors to stop looking at issues in terms of primary care and secondary care and to start having discussions about dentistry and how we do the right thing for patients– keen to address this, particularly in the West - Adele as Executive Director of Ops is pushing this quite hard as well to say we need to break down barriers and look at the patients within the system rather than the system and then the patients |  |
| **2.3** | **Specialist availability**    Ortho having issues around staffing levels, recruitment is ongoing but still failing to attract applicants.  Looking at how service is modelled and different ways of service organisation to enable better recruitment ie hub and bespoke model (with one site being main site and then people working out into the other two sites) and at some point in the future getting more staff into those sites. Struggling currently to get cover across the three sites which is having knock on effect on Ortho  Ortho waits getting lot of attention in secondary care – issue is pressure from WG to address but no funding going into Ortho as being diverted elsewhere  Restorative – GB handed in notice, now have no restorative consultant currently, there are discussions ongoing with someone looking to join. Looking at refreshing the review done 10 years ago to see what is needed in terms of Restorative for a service in North Wales  SS commented on the previous review and will approach PB to see if he will conduct the review that she did 10 years ago.  Meeting discussed concerns over recommendations were 1.5 then to consider a second .5 / PG raised concerns for both the ortho and resto around sole working elements and issue that have been advertising exactly the same post time after time and not getting any interest  Noted there is a team in workforce who deal with overseas recruitment – they have been looking this route as an option  Noted Chief Exec having round table meeting re ortho this week to put ideas on the table. |  |
| **3** | **For Information** |  |
| 3.1  3.2  3.3 | SCD Minutes –March 2023 minutes attached for information  Ortho MCN Minutes – July 2023 circulated for information  Dental Q&S minutes – circulated for information |  |
| **4** | **Any Other Business** |  |
|  | 1. DN - following Mid-Year Review it appeared New Patients were a hard metric to hit? ATy not really new patients was about wales average. SS advised she would send comms out asking for practices to let Marie know if they have any spaces for urgent patients. 2. Meeting had a discussion over recent media coverage over NHS dentistry and the growth of private sector. PG raised concern re the pressures within practices and the situation being more unstable now than in the last 4 years. KF reflected on burden of practice owner with staffing higher than ever, cost of living is high, lab bills high, don’t want to do Band 3’s on NHS, unless more money available to contractors, can’t do more 3. Tender process update – still going through HB Governance process have had to go through extra scrutiny as now planning to spend more. Have been asked to provide further justification on why and who have been chosen. Very governance heavy in BCU currently. 4. Spotlight sessions Update – 15 responses to attend todate (not all GDS contractors). Contracting team have no capacity to run the old style meetings held by Tony Benton. PG gave an overview of what Spotlight sessions will cover. DN thinks these are too broad a topic would like to address what doing day to day in practice and be less strategic. DN suggested LDC set up and invite HB to attend. DN would like meeting with colleagues before Christmas. PG encouraged all to use the spotlight sessions. DN will reach out to Becca to try and arrange a coffee morning time thing 5. MyDentist Rhyl – ATy informed the group HB have not received notice from them despite what they are telling their patients |  |
|  | Date Time and Next Meetings |  |
|  | 17th February 2024  20th June 2024  17th October 2024  Thursdays 9:30-11:30 via Teams |  |