



10 February 2014

Dear Colleague,

The National Assembly for Wales' Health and Social Care Committee is undertaking a **short inquiry into orthodontic services in Wales**.

The terms of reference are to inquire into the provision of appropriate orthodontic care in Wales including:

- Access for patients to appropriate orthodontic treatment, covering both primary and secondary care orthodontic services, and whether there is regional variation in access to orthodontic services across Wales.
- The effectiveness of working relationships between orthodontic practices and Local Health Boards in the management of local orthodontic provision, and the role of Managed Clinical Networks in helping to deliver more effective orthodontic services in Wales (e.g. effective planning and management, improvement in the appropriateness of referrals and performance management, workforce arrangements).
- Whether the current level of funding for orthodontic services is sustainable with spending pressures facing the NHS, including whether the current provision of orthodontic care is adequate, affordable and provides value for money.

Bae Caerdydd / Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd / Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Ffôn / Tel: 029 2089 8403
E-bost / Email: HSCCommittee@wales.gov.uk

- Whether orthodontic services is given sufficient priority within the Welsh Government's broader national oral health plan, including arrangements for monitoring standards of delivery and outcomes of care within the NHS and the independent sector.
- The impact of the dental contract on the provision of orthodontic care.

Invitation to contribute to the inquiry

The Committee welcomes evidence from both individuals and organisations. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please provide a brief description of the role of your organisation.

Generally, we ask for submissions to be made in writing, because it is normal practice for the National Assembly to publish evidence provided to a Committee on our internet site so that it becomes part of the public record. However, we are also able to accept evidence in audio or video format. The Committee welcomes contributions in English or Welsh, and we ask organisations with Welsh Language policies / schemes to provide bilingual responses, where applicable, in line with their public information policies.

If you wish to submit evidence, please send an electronic copy of your submission to HSCCommittee@wales.gov.uk.

Alternatively, you can write to: Committee Clerk, Health and Social Care Committee, National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff Bay, CF99 1NA.

Submissions should arrive by **Friday 4 April 2014**. It may not be possible to take into account responses received after this date.

Submissions should:

- be no longer than five sides of A4;
- contain numbered paragraphs;
- (if submitted electronically) should preferably be Word documents, not pdf files; and
- should focus on the terms of reference outlined above.

For your information, the Committee has invited submissions from those on the attached distribution list. We would be grateful if you could forward a copy of the letter to any individuals or organisations that are not included on this list, but might like to contribute to the inquiry. A copy of this letter has been placed on the National Assembly's website with an open invitation to submit views. We will be holding two oral evidence sessions in May and June 2014.

Disclosure of Information

It is normal practice for the National Assembly to publish evidence provided to a Committee. Consequently your response may appear in a report or in supplementary evidence to a report. The National Assembly will not publish information which it considers to be personal data.

In the event of a request for information submitted under UK legislation, it may be necessary to disclose the information that you provide. This may include information which has previously been removed by the National Assembly for publication purposes.

If you are providing any information, other than personal data, which you feel is not suitable for public disclosure, it is up to you to stipulate which parts should not be published and to provide a reasoned argument to support this. The National Assembly will take this into account when publishing information or responding to requests for information.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David F. Rees." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D' and 'R'.

David Rees AM

Chair

Annex: Distribution list

Aberwystwyth Dental Postgraduate Centre
All Wales Special Interest Group/Oral Health Care
Bangor Dental Postgraduate Centre
British Association of Dental Nurses
British Association of Dental Therapists
British Association of Social Workers
British Dental Association
British Dental Association Wales
British Dental Health Foundation
British Dental Practice Managers Association
British Dental Practice Managers' Association
British Dietetic Association
British Medical Association
British Orthodontic Society
British Orthodontic Society
British Society for Disability and Oral Health
British Society of Dental and Maxillofacial Radiology
British Society of Paediatric Dentistry
Cardiff University Dental Postgraduate Department
Cardiff University School of Dentistry
Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales
Care Council for Wales
Castle Hill Orthodontics
Centre for Evidence-based Dentistry
Chartered Society of Physiotherapy
Chief Dental Officer for Wales
Children's Commissioner for Wales
College of Occupational Therapists
Committee of Postgraduate Dental Deans and Directors
County Councils
Dental Defence Union
Designed to Smile – Cardiff
Equality and Human Rights Commission
European Federation of Orthodontic Specialist Associations

Faculty of Dental Surgery
Faculty of General Dental Practice (North Wales)
Faculty of General Dental Practice (South Wales)
Flying Start initiatives
General Dental Council
General Dental Council
General Medical Council
Haverfordwest Dental Postgraduate Centre
Health Protection Agency
Healthcare providers:
Llandough Dental Postgraduate Centre
Llandrindod Wells Dental Postgraduate Centre
Merthyr Tydfil Dental Postgraduate Centre
National Examining Board for Dental Nurses (NEBDN)
National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence
National Oral Health Promotion Group (NOHPG)
Newtown Dental Postgraduate Centre
Older People's Commissioner for Wales
Orthodontic National Group
Patients Association
Public Health Wales
Rhyl Dental Postgraduate Centre
Society for the Advancement of Anaesthesia in Dentistry
South East Wales Managed Clinical Network for Orthodontics
Swansea Dental Postgraduate Centre
The British Lingual Orthodontic Society;
The British Society for Disability and Oral Health
The British Society of Dental Hygiene & Therapy
The British Society of Paediatric Dentistry (BSPD)
The Orthodontic National Group (Dental Nurses)
The Postgraduate Medical and Dental Centre
The Welsh NHS Confederation
Welsh Consultant Orthodontic Group
Welsh General Dental Practitioners Committee
Wrexham Dental Postgraduate Centre