

Dear

### **ATISN 17462– Dental Contracts**

Thank you for your e-mail to the Welsh Government requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000), received on 5 May. I had interpreted your request as following:

For the contract year 2022-2023

- 1 How many dental practices in Wales hold NHS contract for general dental services? (please do not include EDS/MOS etc)
- 2 What was the total value of these contracts?
- 3 What is the total number of UDA's ?
- 4 a) For 2022-2023 How many dental practices were working on existing GDS contracts (ie UDA)? Please give both number of practices and percentage of all Wales practices holding GDS contracts.  
b) What was the total value of these UDA contracts?  
c) What was the combined number of UDA's for these contracts?
- 5 a) How many dental practices were working under contract variation(contract reform) again please supply number of practices and percentage  
b) What was the total value of these contracts combined  
c) What was the equivalent total number of UDA's for these contracts?
- 6 How many dental practices have handed back either part or full NHS contracts since April 2021?
- 7 What was the value of the contracts handed back both in pounds £ and in UDA numbers?
- 8 How many contracts have been reissued and are currently active (ie not in tender process)  
Please state:
  - a) Total number of contracts
  - b) Equivalent value of UDA numbers
  - c) Total value of contracts
  - d) Percentage of reissued contracts undertaking contract reform and total value of these contracts

### **Our Response**

#### **For 2022/23**

1. At the start of the year there were 413 NHS GDS contracts in operation.

2. £144.7 million
3. The Welsh Government does not hold individual contract information therefore we do not hold this data.
4.
  - a) 91 worked under the existing UDA arrangements which equates to 22% of all contracts in operation
  - b) £15.3m
  - c) This information has not been reported to the Welsh Government therefore we do not hold this information. Individual contract level information is held by the commissioning health board.
5.
  - a) 322 opted into the contract variation offer equating to 78% of a contracts in operation
  - b) £144.7m
  - c) This information has not been reported to the Welsh Government therefore we do not hold this information. Individual contract level information is held by the commissioning health board.
6. 31 GDS contracts have been terminated and 6 have been reduced in value. Over the same period 18 contracts have increased in value as a result of taking on additional activity.
7. The contracts that were terminated had a combined value of £7.3m and represented 246,016 UDAs.  
The contracts that were reduced had a combined value of £0.95m and represented 34,193 UDAs.
8. The Welsh Government does not hold the information required to provide this analysis. When contracts are returned or reduced in value that funding can be used in a number of ways such as like for like replacement, re-distribution to other local practices or investment in health board provided dental services. It is worth noting that health boards' dental budgets are ring fenced and must be spent on dental services. Therefore, any funding associated with contracts that are terminated or reduced in value will always be re-invested in dental service provision.

In terms of data we hold I can confirm that since April 2021 18 contracts have increased their contract value by taking on additional activity at a value of £5.1m representing 177,187 UDAs. Since April 2021, 7 new contracts have been established and are currently operational. The combined annual value is £1.6m. Of these 7 contracts 1 is operating under reform arrangements with a value of £0.6m. Several more contracts have been successfully procured and are due to come on line later this year.

### **Next steps**

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](mailto: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,