

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Local Dental Committee

Committee Meeting – Wednesday 10 September 2025 at 7pm

Venue: Lord Selborne Room, Chillworth Manor Hotel, Southampton SO16 7PT

Part One

1. **Welcome** – The Chair welcomed all attendees to the meeting.
2. **Present:** Phil Gowers (Chair); Claudia Peace (Treasurer); Keith Percival (Secretary); Jessica Patel-Barnes (Vice-Chair); Parimal Manek; Sham Seehra; Emily Vidovic; Shilpa Chitnis; Janita Dhariwal; Nick Forster; Hardev Seehra; Lloyd Payne; Lauren Holmes; Ross McDowall; James Kingham; Claudia Lever (Observer) Caroline Short – minutes
Apologies: Katy Kerr; Nerina Hendrickse; Neelam Prasad; Eva Lewin; Caroline Frolander; Patrick Stewart; Sue Fenton; Prawash Sunuwar
3. **Conflicts of Interest – Not already declared** None
4. **Minutes of the Meeting** 2 July 2025 (Part One) signed off as a true and accurate account of the meeting.
5. **Matters Arising from the minutes and not on the agenda** None
6. **NHSE Workforce Training and Education Report** – Katy Kerr by e-mail
 - Navina Evans - Chief Workforce, Training and Education Officer, stepped down from her role in August 2025. Jo Lenaghan, Director of Workforce Strategy and Planning, will be taking on the role of Chief Workforce, Training and Education Officer on an interim basis from September 2025, in addition to her current role. Paul Sadler left his role as South East Regional Postgraduate Dean at the end of July and has been replaced by Professor Jo Szram. DHSC executive positions are being recruited to, and the position of Director General for People has been advertised with a closing date of 15th of September 2025. The expectation is that the integrated senior structures will be confirmed in the autumn, and although the transition process seems to be progressing slowly, it's important to note that different parts of the system, including NHS Trusts and ICB's, are also going through a transition.
 - A voluntary redundancy scheme has been opened. The process for alignment for NHSE WT&E across the SE is still paused.
 - Workforce continues to be a key issue to address if we are to deliver services. Continuing to work with LDNs, MCNs and ICBs to develop appropriate training opportunities for the whole dental team. Continuing with discussions with ICB to review and support the care pathways. We have developed objectives to meet the 10 Year Health Plan and will now set up courses to support these.
 - The NHSE WT&E Dental Directorate TV:WX website is now updated with useful resources. <https://thamesvalley.hee.nhs.uk/dental-directorate-thames-valley-and-wessex/>
 - E-Learning for Health will be moving to the Learning Hub and the TEL team are working on moving content.
 - Referrals on REGO – a regular free training session has been timetabled throughout 2025 to support referrals led by Huw Winstone. The next session is on 14th November 13:00 to 14:00 <https://www.maxcourse.co.uk/heetvw/userCourseListCourseDetails.asp?cKey=44191>
 - NHSE WT&E Dental Directorate TV:WX have completed the final IDG (International Dental Graduate) on the PLVE Programme and this programme has officially finished in TV:WX. NHSE WT&E have updated the Introduction to NHS webinars to fit the new programme and will continue to hold training sessions to support Mentors (The next session is on Tuesday 25th November 2025, 18:30 to 20:00) <https://www.maxcourse.co.uk/heetvw/userCourseListCourseDetails.asp?cKey=44659>
 - We are currently starting the inductions for the foundation cohort for 2025-26 including the longitudinal posts to combine DFT and DCT1. In an innovative collaboration H & IOW ICB are funding some DFT and DTFT posts.
 - We continue to run a series of events to highlight career choices in oral health with both primary and secondary school pupils. Working to support the Dental Nurse apprenticeship with South Hampshire College Group and in discussions to develop other courses to support future commissioning.
 - The Dental Nurse Forum continues with the aim to support retention and career development.

- To book events or to explore other options please visit our booking system Maxcourse at: <http://www.maxcourse.co.uk/heetvw/guestHome.asp>

7. **NHS England/H&IOW ICB (Secretary's Report P1)-KP**

Circulated prior to the meeting

8. **LDN Report - NF**

Nick will be stepping back in his role as LDN Chair so that his main focus can be on his new role as Honorary Secretary of the LDC following Keith's retirement from that position on the 31st October 2025. NF will be writing a report with his thoughts and concerns regarding the initiatives in place locally following the labour manifesto pledges. The Hampshire ICB has to provide an additional 30,000+ urgent dental care appointments. NF feels that practices should be paid for their UDA achievements each month, not the overall contract value split into 12 equal payments, this leads to clawback when there are underachievements. All practices should have an NHS net account.

KP – Feels private practices should also have access to an NHS net account.

NF – Not limited to NHS contract providers.

Across the two ICB areas there is a lot of discrepancy around waiting times for Child GAs, Hampshire patients are waiting over a year other areas are significantly better or worse. There are large areas of deprivation which are not always taken into account when commissioning services. 111 has not been able to fill the available urgent care appointments.

Uncertain of where LDN Chairmanship will go.

Large amount of clawback for the year 2024/25. Practices need to write to the Commissioners stating where they have the capacity to overperform. Frimley ICB has a slightly different approach. NF feels it is very important for ICBs to negotiate with contract providers.

PM asked regarding rebasing of contracts. Nationally UDA rates have increased from £22.70 - £28 - £29.40 H&IOW ICB is working on £35.10

KP – UDA values will not be increased significantly in the shorter term but there is the option to flex the contract and decrease the number of UDAs within the same overall contract value. This might be a way of addressing high needs patients or those that have comorbidities.

Oral Surgery MCN – No report had been submitted but KP extracted some information from the minutes of the most recent MCN meeting:

- The MCN is grateful for the support given by the Frimley ICB commissioning team in managing a very small number of referrers whose approach to referring patients has been problematic. The MCN appreciates the pressures that they are currently dealing with.
- Accreditation for Level 2 IMOS tier 2 specialists is being carried out by KSS with the H&IOW MCN Chair on the Panel. There are indemnity issues for the panel members and awaiting resolution by the H&IOW ICB.
- The MCN is not accepting non-specialist accreditation from other regions.
- Reprourement will take place during Spring 2026 with mobilisation in October 2026.
- The announced loss of the CSU (Commissioning Support Unit) and funding uncertainty will not reassure potential bidders nor existing providers.
- There are concerns that the BOB procurement model might be run out within H&IOW but the commissioning hub have given reassurances that they would be looking to procure the service from a minimum of 4 providers.
- Appraisal outcomes from existing Hospital practitioners would be welcome as part of the accreditation process and to support best practice the MCN would support the use of appraisal for all iMOS providers.
- REGO and lack of action on areas of concern over a protracted length of time are frustrating and now the service has been re-procured with NEC there is expectation that changes might be adopted through the speciality panels/pathway review groups. The LDN will be approached to give an update on the timelines and plans to address this long standing issue.
- CBCT and a possible operational pathway was discussed – where should CBCT (Cone Beam Computed Tomography) and reporting take place? There is no commissioned imaging or advice service within secondary care nor as an advance mandatory service within primary care. The application of CBCT and referrals to gain this diagnostic information within primary care oral surgery and orthodontics is on the

increase. The LDN will be asked to consider creating a working group to look into this diagnostic aspect of care and advise the ICB accordingly.

- The legal implications of consent in relation to 3rd molar surgical management. Some GDPs are very risk averse.
- The management of patient expectations who are still being informed by primary care referrers that they are being treated in Hospital rather than in a specialist service is increasing the burden on secondary care.
- The two week wait referral numbers continue to rise with no increase in the number of cancers identified. Training for referrers could be implemented if changes in DERS are made. Increasing referrals using this pathway are reducing the impact of efforts to reduce waiting lists in secondary care.
- The financial constraints on Hospitals together with increasing clinical priorities within oncology and acute patient demands means that waiting times are unlikely to reduce significantly in the shorter term.

Orthodontic MCN – Ross McDowall

Introduced Claudia Lever a second year registrar.

- Last meeting 11 June 2025
- Waiting times for new patient assessment and then onward treatment remain long.
- Primary care waiting lists: o New patient assessment 3-12 months o Treatment start 0-24 months
- Secondary care waiting lists: o New patient assessment 3-12 months o Treatment start 0-18 months
- NEC DERS contract has been renewed. MCN keen to continue to evolve the system for further efficiencies, awaiting DERS Pathway Review Group meeting.
- An increased number of referrals are being received for early intervention orthodontics, which are not always appropriate. This is being looked into.
- Regional wait times for dentoalveolar surgery remain long, 6-12 months, having an impact on timely management of impacted canines, with increased risk of unwanted sequela.
- Joint clinic for orthodontics & special care dentistry now underway at Portsmouth Hospital and planned to commence at Basingstoke Hospital. These clinics will have a particular emphasis on the management of sixes with poor prognosis.
- The ICB have produced workplans for all MCNs. Within this, they have asked us to audit inappropriate referrals to Primary Care Specialist Orthodontic Practice; currently in results collection phase.
- Next meeting 12 November 2025

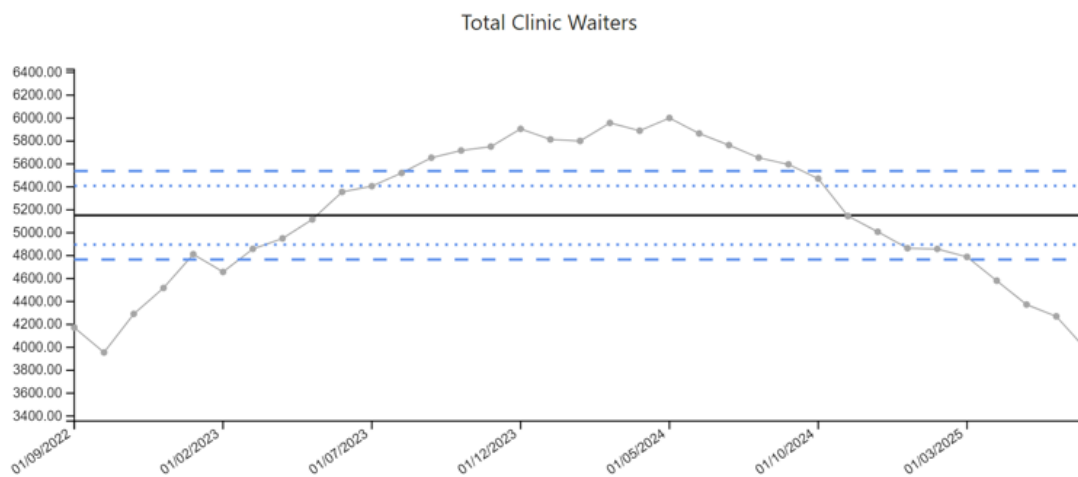
Salaried Service & MCN – Caroline Frolander

New Patient Referrals

3983 patients waiting end of July

Waiting times vary across service 15-31 months

	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25
Patients waiting for first assessment appointment (Total number at the end of each month)	4,390	4,270	3,983
Total referrals received by month	505	542	554
Referrals accepted	292	309	305
Referrals rejected	213	233	246
Patients seen as urgent	10	19	11
Patients seen as priority	23	46	27
Patients seen as routine	165	222	187



GA Waiters

Adults	Longest wait	86 weeks	111 patients waiting
Children	Longest wait	63 weeks	315 patients waiting

Workforce

Vacancy controls in place

Current vacancies 4.6 WTE dentists, 0.8 WTE recently offered

StR in Special Care Dentistry start date 3.9.2025

9. University of Portsmouth Dental Academy

PG highlighted that the UOPDA has been awarded Dental School status by the privy council. Will be able to run the first course September 2026. The numbers are likely to be relatively small in the first cohort.

10. BDA Report – The Wessex Branch is holding a CPD Conference on Friday the 7th November in Southampton titled ‘tooth wear and the application of contemporary occlusal principles in restorative management’. **KP** also highlighted the great work and unstinting support given to the profession by the BDA:

- 2019 practices with a UDA of £16 received £48 for molar endo now the minimum is £205 a 300% increase.
- Negotiation 2022 secured the division of Band 2 with a minimum UDA value of £28 now £29.30 (marginal changes)
- Now pushing to change the UDA contract as much as possible (April 2026) to better manage the contract and ultimately achieve fundamental contract reform.

11. CPD Communication Event Saturday 20th September 2025 – being held at Chilworth Manor Hotel, Southampton – Human Factors – Professor Peter Brennan and Reducing your Dento-legal Risk through effective communication Dr Patricia Langley. All welcome to this free event.

12. Website Report – Emily Vidovic

- The Hampshire and IOW LDC website has continued to grow with an average of 1300 -1500 visitors every month
- The social media interaction has also grown with the benefits of developing our LinkedIn, X, Instagram and Facebook accounts
- The removal and ensuring the removal of links connected to the social media accounts created by AK have continued
- It is believed that AK has recently returned to some form of social media however there has been no contact. Any suspicious activity is being closely monitored. There have been continued attempts to contact the case workers, however any follow up contact has been extremely limited
- There has been a marked increase in the public contacting the LDC website for advice for accessing treatment, including issues transferring treatment from county to county especially orthodontic treatment. This includes children’s treatment. This was raised at the recent Executive Meeting.

13. Any Other Business

CL – thanked the group for allowing her to attend the meeting.

14. Dates of next Meetings: 12 November 2025; 14 January 2026; 18 March 2026