

NHS Dentistry, commissioning for better oral health

Terms of reference

1. Background

The Primary Care Contracting (PCC) commissioning for better oral health group was established to support PCTs understand the need to build oral health improvement and prevention into the overall commissioning of dental services and oral health interventions.

There is also a need for PCTs to understand the principles of oral health needs assessment as the underpinning requirement of a successful commissioning approach.

The working arrangements introduced in April 2006 offer flexibility to move services from volume activity and repair to a more preventative approach ensuring that evidence informed preventive interventions are delivered and self care is promoted to improve oral health.

The group will share the learning from the events, assess the impact by following up attendees to capture progress and understand if any further support or resources are required. Examples of good practice on needs assessment, oral health strategies and innovative commissioning to improve oral health can be assessed and shared.

2. Key Objectives

The key objectives will be to:

- Share the learning
- Assess impact of the events
- Understand further support/resources required
- Receive and assess case studies
- Share examples of good practice – oral health needs assessment, oral health strategy, innovative commissioning
- Develop Innovative commissioning approach and outcome measures
- Facilitate network development

3. Membership

The group will be chaired by Primary Care Contracting and membership will comprise representatives of:

- Primary Care Trusts
- Strategic Health Authorities
- Workforce Development
- Department of Health
- Colgate
- GDP – preventive focus
- Primary Care Contracting - communications
- PCT DS

4. Reporting

The minutes of the group will go to the Deputy Chief Dental Officer who has a responsibility for dental oral health

5. Frequency of Meetings

NEXT meeting be a workshop in the Autumn followed by a wash-up session.