

**TO:** West Gloucestershire PCT Board  
**FROM:** Liz Griffiths, Dental Project Manager  
**DATE:** 13<sup>th</sup> July 2006  
**SUBJECT: NHS Dentistry**

## **1.0 PURPOSE**

1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide an update on:-

- current NHS Dentistry commissioning position
- status of projects to utilise additional £1m Department of Health funding to develop NHS Dentistry access in Gloucestershire
- Orthodontic services

## **2.0 COMMISSIONING NHS DENTISTRY**

2.1 As reported to the Board in April 2006, the initial dental funding allocation for WGPCT PCT was £4,903,900 of which a total value of £4,240,800 NHS Dentistry was commissioned.

2.2 An additional commissioning requirement has arisen as a Tredworth Road, Gloucester based Orthodontist, who has now left the County, had a number of patients in active treatment and retention as at April 2006. Completion of Orthodontic treatment for these patients is in the process of being re-commissioned. The projected cost associated with commissioning this activity is £57,420 which will be funded from the above underspend.

2.3 Following consultation with the Gloucestershire Local Dental Committee, a Local Dispute Resolution Policy was approved for Countywide adoption on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2006. This has been issued to all WGPT dental practices for their records. It is envisaged that the majority of WGPCT dental contract disputes will be resolved during July 2006.

## **3.0 DEVELOPING NHS DENTISTRY ACCESS IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE**

3.1 The current status of plans to utilise the £1m Department of Health dental funding approved for the development of two new dental practices is as follows:-

- Gloucester – building works to extend the facilities at Eastgate House (building 5 surgeries and furnishing and equipping 4 surgeries) is underway. The new surgeries will open to the public early September 2006. Patients will be advised of the process to join the practice during July. There will be an initial three week period when patients can apply to join the practice, after which time the volume of applications will be reviewed.
- Cheltenham – a project team has been established and the service specification is currently being finalised to be issued for tender. It is anticipated the new practice will be open to the public during Spring 2007.

**4.0 ORTHODONTICS**

- 4.1 A number of Orthodontic contracts within the County are in dispute. This is largely as a result of increases in capacity during last year for which there was no identified funding. The three PCTs continue to review Countywide Orthodontic provision and demand, patient flows and providers of services, including capacity at Gloucestershire Hospitals Trust as a means of informing further commissioning requirements.

**5.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 5.1 The Board is asked to receive the report and note the contents.