

2024 LDC Conference Motions

15 motions passed at the 2024 Conference of Scottish LDCs were taken forward as SDPC policy

Below is a summary of the progress made with the motions

Green = progress made

Orange = longer-term goal

Yellow = no longer applicable

Number	Title	Motion	LDC	Progress
1	Increased capitation for over 65's	This Conference calls for an urgent review of and increase in the additional support needs capitation payment for registered patients in the 65+ age group.	Greater Glasgow & Clyde LDC	SDPC discussed this matter with the Scottish Government who advised that they are not currently making any changes to the Statement of Dental Remuneration. They noted it is important that the system is given time to bed in before a full review is carried out. Scottish Government advised that suitable evidence for such a change would be required, particularly as this motion specifies one age group.
2	Enhanced Domiciliary Care Crisis	This Conference demands that Scottish Government address the crisis in domiciliary care provision through immediate review of Determination 1 changes, and reinstatement of appropriate reimbursement for the additional time and skill required to properly care for these complex patients to allow the service to remain viable.	Greater Glasgow & Clyde LDC and Lanarkshire LDC	Completed - on 1 May 2024 Scottish Government amended item 8 - Domiciliary Visit and Recalled Attendance - in the new Determination 1 to allow this item to be claimed by enhanced domiciliary care dentists per care home location visited. This can be claimed in addition to all required items of treatment and enhanced skills allowances, as set out in Determination XVI, Part I.
3	NHS Pension FAQ	The conference calls on Scottish Government, PSD and SPPA to work together to produce an FAQ in relation to the NHS pension scheme.	Ayrshire & Arran LDC	SDPC are in the process of raising this matter with the Board of the Scottish Public Pensions Authority (SPPA). SPPA are in the process of devising a newsletter with the purpose of providing more helpful information about how to contact them and explain their progress in terms of meeting their members' needs. In addition, we wrote to the Minister for Public Finance in November 2024 to ask that adequate funding be provided to SPPA so they can function more effectively and meet their members' needs.
4	Digital Allowance Payment	This Conference calls for financial support for digital technologies through the creation of a digital allowance payment to assist NHS practices to purchase and maintain digital equipment such as digital scanners, and associated software and hardware, to enable them to reduce their environmental footprint whilst maintaining the quality of patient care expected by NHS patients.	Greater Glasgow & Clyde LDC	SDPC discussed this matter with the Scottish Government during the Determination 1 negotiations. At this point, Scottish Government advised that allowances would be discussed as part of stage 2 of Payment Reform. Timeline was to be confirmed. Scottish Government have recently advised that due to the current emergency financial controls in place across Scottish Government, that they are therefore not in a position to consider additional allowances at this time. SDPC will continue to raise this matter with the Scottish Government.

5	Extension to Golden Hello Areas	This Conference calls for an increase in the number of designated areas where associates can get 'golden hellos' and other incentives for buying or setting up practices in order to improve access to NHS dentistry.	Greater Glasgow & Clyde LDC	<p>Workforce recruitment and retention, in relation to patient access, is a high priority SDPC are regularly discussing with the Scottish Government and other organisations, such as NES. In specific reference to the Scottish Dental Access Initiative, a new webpage relating to this was launched on the Scottish Dental website in May 2024.</p> <p>The NHS Scotland operational improvement plan was also published on 31 March 2025. It contains a commitment to refresh and target existing incentives and eligibility following completion of work with the Board Chief Executives' Dental Services Reference Group by the end of December 2025.</p> <p>The Chief Dental Officer wrote to all Health Boards on 2 September 2024 confirming the Scottish Government's intention to introduce a more targeted and evidence-based approach to support rural areas with additional financial support. Scottish Government are currently reviewing the existing grants and financial incentives available to NHS Boards and will continue to work closely with Health Boards to ensure that these support measures offer maximum effectiveness to help counter access issues in the areas that need it most.</p>
6	Increase in CPDA	This Conference demands an increase in Continuous Professional Development Allowance to 10 sessions per year.	Greater Glasgow & Clyde LDC	SDPC discussed this matter with the Scottish Government who have advised that due to the current emergency financial controls in place across Scottish Government, that they are not in a position to consider additional allowances at this time. SDPC will continue to raise this matter with the Scottish Government.
7	LDC Levy Opt-Out	The conference believes that to support local and national negotiation at a time of significant dental challenges, the Local Dental Committee levy on NHS schedules should be an 'opt out' for all lists.	Forth Valley LDC	The Chair of the Conference of Scottish LDCs, as a member of SDPC, discussed this motion with the Scottish Government who have advised that they are unable to take a view on such a topic. This is a complex motion which may require input from Practitioner Services, and or, Health Boards. SDPC intend to discuss the motion further with Practitioner Services.
8	Silver Diamine Fluoride Allowance	This Conference calls for an allowance for practices (through a specific enhanced minimally invasive code for paediatric dentistry) to purchase silver diamine fluoride for use on children with multiple carious teeth to try and prevent the need for future extraction under general anaesthetic.	Greater Glasgow & Clyde LDC	In July 2024, SDPC submitted a proposal to the Scottish Government asking them to add a treatment code for Silver Diamine Fluoride application to the new Determination 1. Scottish Government declined the proposal, advising that as Silver Diamine Fluoride is not licensed in the UK for caries management, that it is not possible to include it in the Statement of Dental Remuneration.
9	Centres for Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery	We call on Scottish Government to develop regional centres for oral and maxillofacial surgery to allow equal access throughout Scotland.	Lanarkshire LDC	Workforce recruitment and retention, in relation to patient access, is a high priority SDPC are regularly discussing with the Scottish Government and other organisations, such as NES. Scottish Government advised that as this motion relates to secondary care / minor surgery, that they are unable to provide comment and advised this topic would be better raised with secondary care colleagues within Scottish Government. SDPC intend to pursue this.

10	Oral Surgery GDP Training Grant	This Conference calls for a training grant and pathway for GDPs to gain minor oral surgery skills to reduce referrals to secondary care and waiting times for secondary care O.S. treatment.	Greater Glasgow & Clyde LDC	<p>Workforce recruitment and retention, in relation to patient access, is a high priority SDPC are regularly discussing with the Scottish Government and other organisations, such as NES. SDPC have asked Scottish Government about Action 16 of the 2018 Oral Health Improvement Plan and when this will be implemented in relation to Practitioners with Enhanced Skills. The plan discusses introducing a system of accreditation that recognises GDPs with enhanced skills and allows these professionals to carry out certain procedures which can be safely done within a primary care setting.</p> <p>Scottish Government advised that as this motion relates to secondary care / minor surgery, that they are unable to provide comment and advised this topic would be better raised with secondary care colleagues within Scottish Government. SDPC intend to pursue this.</p>
11	Dental Amalgam Ban	This Conference demands that the Scottish Government and BDA work together to secure the supply of amalgam and ensure there is no financial impact on dental practices from 1st January 2025, the date from which the European Parliament has voted to ban dental amalgam.	Greater Glasgow & Clyde LDC and Lanarkshire LDC	<p>The EU amalgam ban is a topic regularly discussed with both the Scottish Government and NSS. NSS are concerned about the future supply of the material to the UK, and as such, are in discussions with the three main UK dental supply companies to seek clarity on whether they will be able to meet supply demands should the market change. NSS have agreed to keep the BDA updated on developments.</p> <p>The Scottish Government advised that the supply and demand (e.g. production of amalgam or dental lab costs) is not likely to be one that can be determined directly by Scottish Government intervention. Scottish Government are happy to discuss the implications of potential changes to amalgam supply with the BDA in the context of the Statement of Dental Remuneration.</p>
12	Addressing the Shortage of Dental Technicians in Scotland	This Conference calls upon the Scottish Government to take immediate action by supporting additional funding for dental technician trainees and facilitating the creation of more accessible training programs.	Greater Glasgow & Clyde LDC	<p>Recruitment and retention of the dental workforce is a high priority regularly being discussed with the Scottish Government. The Chief Dental Officer led initial discussions with the dental technician training course at the University of Aberdeen. It was thought that some school leavers, who could be potential course applicants, could be excluded from applying due to the qualification requirements. As such, discussions are ongoing about potentially devising a pre-acceptance introductory course for school leavers, with less qualification requirements, which on completion would guarantee a place on the University course.</p> <p>Scottish Government advised that this matter is now being handled by NES and therefore, suggested SDPC discuss the matter directly with them. SDPC intend to pursue the matter with NES.</p>

13	Recruitment and Retention	This conference believes that the number of undergraduate dental trainees should be expanded significantly to aid recruitment and retention, particularly in Scottish, NHS practices.	Forth Valley LDC	<p>Recruitment and retention of the dental workforce is a high priority regularly being discussed with Scottish Government and NES. Any increase in intake numbers for undergraduate dentistry would need to be appropriately funded. Consideration would also need to be given to capacity in dental schools both in relation to numbers of academic teaching staff and clinical / non clinical teaching facilities, along with appropriate funding for vocational training and dental core training for new dental graduates.</p> <p>Over the medium to longer term, Scottish Government are actively looking at options regarding improving the workforce pipeline. The 2025 / 2026 budget sets aside up to £3 million to improve the NHS dental workforce and within this Scottish Government plan to increase the intake to dental schools by 7%, this means there will be an additional 10 Scots-domiciled students in the intake from September 2025.</p>
14	Dental Nurse Training	We call on Scottish Government to increase the number of funded places for dental nurse training to help with the recruitment crisis.	Lanarkshire LDC	<p>Recruitment and retention of the dental workforce is a high priority regularly being discussed with Scottish Government and NES. Our current view is that any increase in DCP numbers would need to be appropriately funded and informed by robust workforce planning across the whole of dentistry.</p> <p>Scottish Government advised they were unable to take a view on this motion. This subject is within the locus of NES and, as such, they suggested discussions be taken forward directly with them. SDPC intend to pursue the matter with NES.</p>
15	DDRB Recommendation	This conference calls for the DDRB to provide a recommendation for Scotland which will deliver parity throughout the UK on take home pay.	Greater Glasgow & Clyde LDC	<p>The BDA's Review Body and Evidence Committee (RBEC) are considering whether the higher taxation levels for some dentists in Scotland will be used as nation specific evidence in the BDA's DDRB written submission for 2025 / 2026. We propose to raise taxation levels as part of the expenses / cost of care discussions, once a framework for these negotiations has been established and agreed by Scottish Government / SDPC.</p> <p>Scottish Government advised they were unable to take a view on this motion as it relates to the external pay body.</p>