

## Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee

### Briefing Note: Update on NHS Dental Services

**Purpose of the briefing note:** To update the Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) on NHS Dental services including National contractual amendments and Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board (M&SE ICB) initiatives.

- 1.1 This briefing seeks to update HOSC on NHS Dental services outlining current provision, updating on the National Contract amendments, and informing HOSC of the progress of pilot initiatives by M&SE ICB.
- 1.2 There are a total of 17 practices in Thurrock (postcodes RM15 -20 and SS17)

<u>Contract Address</u>	<u>Post Code</u>	<u>Currently Accepting Patients</u>
Dental Surgery 87 Orsett Road GRAYS Essex	RM17 5HH	Children
Patient First Dental Practice 28 London Road GRAYS Essex	RM17 5XY	Yes
19 HIGH STREET STANFORD-LE-HOPE	SS17 0HD	Yes
Dental Surgery Purfleet Care Centre Tank Hill Road Purfleet Essex	RM19 1SX	No
St Clements Health Centre Dental Suite London Road West Thurrock, Grays, Essex	RM20 4AR	No
Dental Surgery 65 - 67 High Street GRAYS Essex	RM17 6NX	Yes
Dental Surgery 103 The Sorrells STANFORD LE HOPE Essex	SS17 7ER	Not stated
126 Orsett Road GRAYS Essex	RM17 5ET	Not stated
Dental Surgery 83 Lampits Hill Corringham STANFORD LE HOPE Essex	SS17 9AB	Children
Dental Surgery 273 Southend Road STANFORD LE HOPE Essex	SS17 8HD	Not stated
Dental Surgery 279 Rectory Road GRAYS Essex	RM17 5SW	Not stated
Dental Surgery 116 High Street Aveley SOUTH OCKENDON Essex	RM15 4BX	No
Dental Surgery 154 Dock Road TILBURY Essex	RM18 7BS	Yes
73 GARRON LANE SOUTH OCKENDON	RM15 5JQ	No
Elite Dental Studio 13/14 Civic Square TILBURY Essex	RM18 8AD	Yes
Dental Surgery 154 Dock Road TILBURY Essex	RM18 7BS	Yes
Riverview Dental Practice 30 River View Chadwell St Mary GRAYS Essex	RM16 4BJ	Yes

Of these, 7 practices are currently taking on new NHS Patients and a further 2 practices are only taking on children 17 or under. *This information is correct as of 26/02/2024, please note practices can open and close their availability to take patients dependant on clinical workload. Patients seeking NHS dental services should contact NHS111.*

- 1.3 It should be noted that there is no formal patient registration with NHS dental practices, this ceased in 2006 with the inception of the current contract, patients can attend any practice delivering NHS dentistry.
- 1.4 Nationally, On 7 February 2024 NHS England published a joint NHS and Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) plan to recover and reform NHS dentistry.
- 1.5 One of the changes announced acknowledged 'While there is no formal system of registration with a practice for dentistry, as there is in General Practice, patients with no existing relationship with a dental practice are more likely to struggle to access care. The latest Patient Survey (based on January to March 2023 data) suggested that patients with no relationship with a practice had a 30% success rate in accessing care, compared to an 83% success rate for those patients already known to a practice.'
- 1.6 NHS dentists will be given a 'new patient' payment of between £15 - £50 (depending on treatment need) to treat patients who have not seen an NHS dentist in two years or more. This will begin from March 2024 and is time limited to end of financial year 2024/2025 (13 months). We expect this will increase access for patients who have not accessed NHS dental services within the last two years.
- 1.7 For the 2023/24 contractual year M&SE ICB have allowed high performing practices to deliver up to 110% of their contract (an additional 10%), within the Thurrock area we expect 12 of the 17 practices to deliver over 100%.
- 1.8 M&SE ICB have commissioned recurrent Units of Dental Activity (UDAs) for 2024/25 and onwards. 14,000 UDAs have been commissioned across 7 practices (This equates to 2 full time NHS dentists).
- 1.9 M&SE ICB has commissioned a Dental Access Pilot, of the 10 practices participating in the 18-month pilot September 2023 – March 2025 (18 months) 2 practices in Thurrock are taking part.
- 1.10 This pilot commissions additional sessional activity outside normal working hours; 3.5 hours mornings and weekday evenings and 5 hours on Saturdays, 5 hours Sundays, and 5 hours on Bank Holidays.
- 1.11 In total 7,706 patients have been seen as of 23/02/2024, of which 806 were from postcodes RM15 -20 and SS17.

- 1.12 M&SE ICB has commissioned a Care Home Pilot, of the 10 practices participating in the 17-month pilot November 2023 – March 2025 2 practices in Thurrock are taking part.
- 1.13 The pilot links NHS dental practices with Care Homes, with the dental practice undertaking visits to the Care Home to assess residents' oral health. This includes developing an oral health plan for each resident as required by the CQC.
- 1.14 Dental treatment will be provided by a dentist within the care home where clinically appropriate.
- 1.15 Out of 8,417 care home beds in M&SE ICB, there are 656 in Thurrock (after specialist homes covered by Community Dental Services are removed). All these beds are covered by the 2 practices in Thurrock taking part in this pilot.
- 1.16 Specialist homes and other domiciliary care are covered by Community Dental Services (CDS) our Special Care dental provider.

Alliance	Care home beds	Specialised	Total Care home beds in Pilot	Total Covered	%	Number of Practices
Thurrock	738	82	656	656	100.0	2

- 1.17 As dental practices are seeing residents in care homes, CDS have seen a reduction to their waiting list of around 50% for domiciliary services.

**For any questions regarding this briefing note, please contact:**

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