



Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

NHS England and NHS Improvement
South East Region

18-20 Massetts Road
York House
Horley
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By email

nicolas.gibb.mp@parliament.uk

13 January 2022

Dear Mr Gibb

Thank you for your e-mail of 5 January 2022 regarding access to NHS dentistry for your constituents.

You will be aware from previous letters of the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on access to NHS dentistry. One change that has been made recently is an increase to the level of activity each dental practice is expected to deliver in return for receiving 100% of their annual funding. Until September 2021 practices were expected to deliver 60% of their contracted activity (80% for orthodontics); this increased to 65% on 1 October 2021 (85% for orthodontics) and from 1 January 2022 increased again to 85% of contracted activity (90% for orthodontics).

These thresholds are set nationally and not by NHS England and NHS Improvement locally and are in response to changes in infection prevention and control procedures which remove the need for fallow time in surgeries in certain clinical circumstances. As a result, your constituents should see an increase in access as practices adapt to the new procedures. Although you have had previous briefings from us outlining the situation, as it has changed recently I attach an up to date version of the briefing for you to be able to share with your constituents.

Unfortunately it is not possible for me to send you a list of dental practices accepting NHS patients as this changes daily depending on individual practices' capacities, therefore any list I send will very quickly be out of date leading to frustration for your constituents when they contact them. The best way for your constituents to find out this information is on the nhs.uk website here: <https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/find-a-dentist> or alternatively by contacting the Sussex Dental Helpline on 0300 123 1663. As capacity may change due to the number of patients who contact the practice with an urgent need, and also with high numbers of staff absences at the current time, patients may need to contact several practices over a varied timescale to obtain an appointment.

NHS England and NHS Improvement



As a result of a number of dental practices handing back their NHS contracts in recent months, our Consultant in Dental Public Health is currently compiling oral health profiles which will determine the priority for future commissioning of services in Sussex. We anticipate these may identify a need for further increased dental services in the area.

Locally we have commissioned 14 practices to provide temporary increases in activity levels across Sussex which will run until the permanent services are in place. These practices are listed below, but I am afraid there is no guarantee of access as these practices will be prioritising urgent treatment for those patients with the greatest need.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sarah Macdonald." The signature is written in a cursive style.

Sarah Macdonald
Director of Primary Care and Public Health Commissioning
NHS England and NHS Improvement - South East Region



Sussex practices with additional temporary activity

Pagham Dental Surgery 16 The Parade, Pagham, PO21 4TW Tel: 01243 860900
West Meads Dental Surgery 3 The Precinct, Bognor Regis, PO21 5SB Tel: 01243 860900
East Street Dental Surgery 53 East Street, Littlehampton, BN17 6AU Tel: 01903 716135
South Cliff Dental Group 39 Whitehawk Road, Brighton, BN2 5FB Tel: 01273 680888
Eaton Road Dental Practice 30 Eaton Road, Hove, BN3 3QA Tel: 01273 820888
Goodwood Court Dental Practice 52-54 Cromwell Road, Brighton, BN3 3DX Tel: 01273 770302
Newholme Dental Practice 61 Middleton Road, Felpham, Bognor Regis, PO22 6BW Tel: 01243 583356
Littlehampton Dental Care 43 Norfolk Road, Littlehampton, BN17 5PW Tel: 01903 713456
Worthing Dental Practice 16 Broadwater Road, Worthing, BN14 8AE



Tel: 01903 233983

Portslade Dental Centre

116-120 St Andrew's Road, Portslade, Brighton, BN41 1DE

Tel: 01273 351013

Trafalgar Street Dental Practice

20-21 Trafalgar Street, Brighton, BN1 4EQ

Tel: 01273 677727

Hove Family Dental Practice

11 New Church Road, Hove, BN3 4AA

Tel: 01273 227722

Lancing Dental Care

104 Sompting Road, Lancing, BN15 9LQ

Tel: 01903 752497

Hangleton Dental Practice

8 West Way, Hove, BN3 8LD

Tel: 01273 421800

