

Reference: FOI.ICB-2526/428

Subject: NHS Dental Commissioning – Underspend, Clawback, Emergency Appointments, Mobile Provision, and Contract Management

I can confirm that the ICB does hold some of the information requested; please see responses below:

QUESTION	RESPONSE
<p>1. Dental Underspend and Clawback</p> <p>For each financial year 2022/23, 2023/24, and 2024/25, please provide:</p> <p>a) The total value of NHS dental contract underspend (UDA clawback) reclaimed by the ICB.</p> <p>b) A high-level breakdown of how this reclaimed funding was allocated or spent, under the following headings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency dental provision • Contract uplifts or variations • Workforce incentives (including “golden handshakes”) • Data, analytics, or consultancy services (including IQVIA) • Any other uses (please specify) <p>If any reclaimed funds were returned to NHS England (or successor bodies), please state the amount and date.</p>	<p>2022/23 - £15,517,231.23 (clawback) 2023/24 - £17,016,524.41 (clawback) 2024/25 - £14,433,714.40 (clawback)</p> <p>Primary Care (High Street) dental funding is made up of several components and does not equate directly to the total contract value. Elements such as performance against contracted activity, patient charge revenue, and other financial adjustments are taken into account and deducted before final funding levels are determined.</p> <p>The figures provided below therefore represent the actual expenditure against the specified funding categories, rather than as a direct result of funding/clawback.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency dental provision (Urgent Care Plus contracts, over and above MDS provision) <p>2022/23 – do not hold this information 2023/24 - £292,565.52 2024/25 - £323,219.07</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract uplifts or variations 2022/23 – Do not hold this information 2023/24 – National indicative UDA increase to a minimum of £23 per UDA 2024/25 – National indicative UDA increase to a minimum of £28 per UDA, local increase to a minimum of £32 per UDA • Workforce incentives 2022/23 – Regional postgraduate bursary £120,000.00 2023/24 – £3,000.00 2024/25 – Regional postgraduate bursary £55,000.00, no local incentives paid out. • Data, analytics, or consultancy services Nil • Any other uses (please specify) • There are a wide range of other expenses such as Oral Health promotion schemes, patient access schemes, dental advisors, training, etc. • Funding returned to NHSE Nil
<p>2. Government-Funded Emergency Dental Appointments</p> <p>For the government-funded emergency dental appointments allocated to the ICB, please provide:</p> <p>a) The total number of emergency dental appointments commissioned.</p>	<p>The Urgent Dental Care mandate, with allocations to ICBs was only implemented for 2025/26 with no additional government funding.</p> <p>a) 54,425 baseline, 22,556 additional appointments secured. b) 58,541 delivered as of January 2026, this is expected to increase as the 2nd and 3rd data updates are completed. c) 116 in total, activity varies across providers</p>

<p>b) The total number delivered. c) The number of dental practices that delivered any of this emergency activity.</p>	
<p>3. Mobile Dental Provision</p> <p>Please provide:</p> <p>a) The total funding allocated to the ICB for mobile dental provision (by financial year). b) Whether any mobile dental services were commissioned or delivered using this funding. c) If no mobile dental services were delivered, please confirm this.</p>	<p>No dental vans were commissioned during this period</p>
<p>4. Dental Contract Management</p> <p>For the financial years 2022/23, 2023/24, and 2024/25, please provide:</p> <p>a) The number of NHS dental contracts that were resized, varied, or reduced due to under-delivery. b) The total number of UDAs removed or reallocated as a result of contract variation.</p>	<p>There has been no unilateral rebasing of dental contracts due to underperformance to date. The contractual provision enabling this action was introduced in 2025, and no contracts have been amended under this mechanism so far.</p>

The information provided in this response is accurate as of 25 March 2026 and has been approved for release by Jenny Bowker, Deputy Director of Performance Delivery, Primary Care and Children’s Services for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.