WGDPC Report 3rd November 2017

This was a joint meeting of WGDPC and Welsh Council. It was epic! There were loads and loads of papers – most of which were for information only. The agenda was so full that not much could actually be discussed!

The BDA are re-vamping their website so there were some computer tech people from the BDA who wanted feedback on our current usage of the website. The feedback was that it was very difficult to navigate through the bda site and most people reverted to google to search for the correct info on the website!

Katrina (the chair) and Caroline (BDA) had met with Andrew Pryse from HIW to discuss the registration process. They both found him an extremely difficult man to deal with. He was totally unsympathetic to anything. I have forwarded their report to Roger for circulation. HIW have to be informed if you make any structural alterations to your premises (even if these have been given a grant from your LHB and overseen by building regs) and HIW will charge #500 to reinspect - he thought that this was totally reasonable. He was also disappointed that they couldn't charge for resubmission of incorrectly filled out HIW forms – but he will if he can! So far HIW have only processed 6 practices, and it is currently taking about 4 months to register practices. Technically if you have submitted your HIW form my 31st March 2018 then its okas long as EVERYTHING is filled in correctly – any errors at all and you won't be able to do any private dentistry. So get the forms in ASAP. As far as a registered manager goes the practice owner can be the registered manager as long as they can describe their day to day oversight of the practice management (they won't accept I've been managing a successful dental practice for 20 years!) There will be BDA guidance out soon. Caroline and Katrina are going to try and get questions asked in the assembly - maybe about extension of the deadline or if anyone has got any other useful questions to ask a minister because they're not going to get any leeway from HIW unless it is forced on them by a minister.

Lisa Howells gave an update from Collette.

National Oral Health Plan 2013-2018 – we will have a new plan, it will be drafted and then consulted on, there will be 2 events in March for dental team members to get ideas and identify priorities.

Contract Reform. There will be a meeting on 25th January 2018 in Cardiff and practices who have not already signed up to the new contract will be invited so that they can get further info on what works well/ or not with the first phase roll out. Then by April they are hoping that 10% of practices will be participating if looking good.

E-referrals – tendering process has started to computer companies to award the tender to run the e-referrals.

Getting the balance right – they are still working on this to help dentists who get into difficulty, local resolution, proportionate response for problems and a consistent approach across Wales.

There are dentists without performer numbers working in N Wales as therapists in the NHS. Lisa is looking into whether this is legal? And will provided guidance when she knows!