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Report of Welsh Dental Committee Meeting 12th April 2022

Welcomes and Introduction made to new CDO Andrew Dickenson. Andrew joined the Welsh Government from Health Education England where he has been working as Regional Postgraduate Dean for Midlands and East of England as an Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon. Andrew is also Vice Chair of COPDEND and brings a broad range of experience in both clinical and non-clinical roles, including at national level.

The chair gave a brief update on action log of last meeting - WG to indicate how much of £3 million of non-recurring funding was utilised by HBs- work still in progress. CDS highlighted that none of this money was made available for them with regards to improving ventilation - chair explained this money was not meant for capital expenses.

Duty of candour presentation by Judith Lewis to be delivered at next meeting.

A Greener Primary Care presentation was presented to meeting. The Minister for Climate Change would like 120 practices in primary care to get involved in the Greener Primary Care Pathway.

Warren Tolley discussed the restoration of dental services in Wales with new targets. He reported a reasonable uptake of between 70-80 % of practices- some practices were still having conversations with LHB.

WG thanked all LHB in getting this ready for 1st April.

LDCs expressed concerns about speed at which this happened and the importance of regular updates/ communications for GDPs and asked if any meeting had been made for such meetings -none so far.

Discussed Lack of Communication re new variation in contract to patients and felt it was left to GDPS to deliver news to patients. Expressed concern re DNA's and FTA's and impact on practices.

Mary Wilson updated group on D2S and its restart. Initially all D2S staff re-deployed and the effect this has since had on workforce with many leaving.

Restart figures have shown a decrease in children's attendance, decrease in frequency of brushing but an increase in sugar consumption.

D2S hitting 79 per cent fluoride varnish rates.

PHW has many resources on it for education poster for children and practices - encouraged to use the resources available.

There was a presentation by Ross Scales GDC on dental specialities and recommendations on the programmes.

Christie Owens presented the impact of covid on the Mental Health of GDPs published in April's BDJ.

Chair Vicki Jones 2-year period come to an end but to stay on.

Allison Walker