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2 July 2018

**SENT VIA E-MAIL**

Cllr Eddie Dryden  
Chair – Health Scrutiny Committee  
Middlesbrough Council  
PO Box 500  
Middlesbrough  
TS1 9FT

Dear Cllr Dryden

**Orthodontic Service Procurement in Cumbria and the North East**

We would like to inform you that NHS England – North (Cumbria and the North East) will be undertaking a procurement of orthodontic services during 2018/2019.

Orthodontic treatment is most often used to improve the appearance and alignment of crooked, protruding or crowded teeth and to correct problems with the bite of the teeth, usually with braces.

Clinical provision of orthodontic services is currently delivered across the locality through a number of different service contracts, largely commissioned under Personal Dental Services (PDS) agreements. These contracts are due to come to an end in 2019/2020. NHS England is therefore required to re-procure these contracts in accordance with Procurement Regulations.

The aim of the overall procurement process is to commission an equitable and consistent service for patients who are eligible for NHS orthodontic services across Cumbria and the North East. The service will be commissioned in line with the national orthodontic commissioning guide published in September 2015.

An orthodontic need assessment has been undertaken by colleagues within Public Health England to ensure that services commissioned will meet local needs.

**Appendix 1** provides a summary of the estimated need for each local area; how this compares with current provision and the capacity we would need to commission to meet the estimated need. The estimated need has been calculated using a nationally accepted methodology which estimates that 33% of 12 year olds will need and want orthodontic treatment. Further information can be found in the full Orthodontic Needs Assessment published on the NHS England North web page (<https://www.england.nhs.uk/north/our-work/information-about-dental-services/orthodontics/>).

We are managing the procurement on a regional basis however contracts will be split into geographical contract lots which have been informed by the local health needs assessment, natural patient flows and feedback from stakeholder engagement undertaken to date. A summary of our proposed commissioning intentions, ie the capacity we are proposing to secure within each locality, is attached in **Appendix 2** with supporting notes.

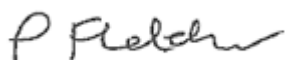
Stakeholder engagement includes:

- National negotiation undertaken with British Dental Association and British Orthodontic Society to inform the commissioning of orthodontic services.
- Local market engagement events with potential providers in April 2017 and March 2018
- Postal survey to orthodontic patients across Cumbria and the North East undertaken during February/March 2018.
- Commissioned 'Investing in children' – Young people's review of provision of orthodontic services in Cumbria and North East (2015)
- Engagement with Health Scrutiny Committees, CCGs, Local MPs and Healthwatch organisations (June/July 2018)

The engagement process is on-going and we are keen to get your feedback which will be used to help inform the procurement alongside the feedback received from patients and other stakeholders.

If you have any questions or feedback in relation to our proposals for the re-commissioning of orthodontic services please can you send them to [england.DentalCNE@nhs.net](mailto:england.DentalCNE@nhs.net) no later than 31 July 2018.

Yours sincerely



**Pauline Fletcher**  
**Primary Care Commissioning Manager (Dental)**

Enclosures

Cc Caroline Breheny & Elise Pout, Scrutiny Officers

## Summary of orthodontic need across Cumbria and the North East

Locality	Estimated Need (Patients) (Note 1)	Required Units of Orthodontic Activity to meet need (Note 2)	Total Current Comissioned Capacity (Note 3)		Variance (Commissioned against Need) (Note 4)		Proposed comissioning intention (Note 5)	
			Indicative patient numbers (case starts per year)	Units of Orthodontic Activity (UOAs)	Indicative patient numbers	Units of Orthodontic Activity (UOAs)	Indicative patient numbers (case starts per year)	Units of Orthodontic Activity (UOAs)
County Durham	1,830	41,180	864	19,451	-966	-21,729	1,738	39,096
Darlington	418	9,395	885	19,912	467	10,516	397	8,926
Hartlepool	362	8,143	328	7,375	-34	-767	268	6,034
Middlesbrough	600	13,492	1,175	26,435	575	12,942	474	10,661
Redcar and Cleveland	497	11,174	381	8,570	-116	-2,604	425	9,563
Stockton-on-Tees	789	17,757	574	12,921	-215	-4,836	720	16,195
Gateshead	737	16,572	505	11,365	-231	-5,207	652	14,671
South Tyneside	532	11,973	740	16,649	208	4,676	350	7,874
Sunderland	993	22,339	1,459	32,824	466	10,485	927	20,847
Northumberland	1,060	23,854	918	20,651	-142	-3,204	798	17,957
Newcastle upon Tyne	1,055	23,739	1,055	23,741	0	2	991	22,297
North Tyneside	746	16,791	635	14,281	-112	-2,511	593	13,333
Carlisle & Eden								
Allerdale & Copeland	1,118	25,151	795	17,898	-322	-7,253	1,000	22,510
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10,736</b>	<b>241,560</b>	<b>10,314</b>	<b>232,070</b>	<b>-422</b>	<b>-9,490</b>	<b>9,332</b>	<b>209,642</b>

**Notes:**

- The estimated need has been calculated using a nationally accepted methodology which estimates that 33% of 12 year olds will need and want orthodontic treatment (average number of 12 year olds calculated from the 2014 base projections from the Office of National Statistics extrapolated up to 2027).
- Required Units of Orthodontic Activity to meet the estimated need has been calculated based on an indicative 22.5 Units of Orthodontic Activity per patient.
- Total current commissioned capacity – this includes a significant amount of capacity that is commissioned under time limited Personal Dental Services (PDS) contracts that are due to end in 2019/20. This equates to 200,473 UOAs / approximately 8910 patients which would need to be re-commissioned to maintain current levels of service provision. The remaining commissioned capacity is provided within non time limited General Dental Services (GDS) contracts as well as secondary care (hospital) provision.
- Variance against need – sets out the gap between the estimated need and the full current commissioned capacity.
- Proposed commissioning intentions – sets out the capacity to be commissioned within the forthcoming procurement process. This is calculated by deducting the patient capacity within the GDS contracts and the indicative capacity within secondary care (hospital).

## Proposed commissioning intentions

Locality	Proposed contracts & locations	Contract size Units of Orthodontic Activity (UOAs)	Contract Size Indicative patient numbers
County Durham (see note 1)	1 x Contract Central Durham (ie Neville's Cross/Elvet/Gilesgate)	14,100	627
	1 x Contract North West Durham (ie Stanley/Tanfield/Consett North)	8,000	356
	1 x Contract Bishop Auckland (Patients previously accessed contract in Darlington - proposal provides more local access)	10,000	444
Darlington	1 x Contract (accessible location within the Borough of Darlington)	9,000	400
Hartlepool (see note 2)	1 x Contract (accessible location within Borough of Hartlepool)	8,500	378
Middlesbrough	1 x Contract (accessible location within the Borough of Middlesbrough)	10,700	476
Redcar and Cleveland	1 x Contract (accessible location within the Borough of Redcar & Cleveland, ie wards of Dormanstown, West Dyke, Longbeck or St	9,600	427
Stockton-on-Tees	1 x Contract (accessible location within the Borough of Stockton on Tees)	16,300	724
Gateshead (see note 3)	1 x Contract (accessible location within the Borough of Gateshead)	10,700	476
South Tyneside	1 x Contract (accessible location within the Borough of South Tyneside)	7,900	351
Sunderland (see note 4)	1 x Contract North of River Wear (two locations - Washington and 1 other, ie Castle, Redhill or Southwick wards)	9,000	400
	1 x Contract South of River Wear (City Centre location, ie Millfield, Hendon, St Michael's wards)	16,000	711
Northumberland	1 x Contract (Central Northumberland ie Ashington)	9,000	400
	1 x Contract (East Northumberland ie Alnwick & North Northumberland Outreach ie Berwick)	9,000	400
Newcastle (see note 5)	1 x Contract (accessible location within Newcastle East ie Ouseburn, South Jesmonth, North Jesmond, East Gosforth, Dene, North Heaton, South Heaton, Byker, Walker, Walkergate wards)	10,500	467
	1 x Contract covering Newcastle West - Hub in Newcastle City Centre ie Westgate ward, with a minimum of 1 outreach location in West Newcastle (ie Elswick, Wingrove, West Gosforth, Benwell & Scotswood, Fenham, Blakelaw, Kenton, Fawdon, Parklands, Lemmington, Denton, Westerhope, Newburn, Woolsington, Castle wards)	15,900	707
North Tyneside	1 x Contract (accessible locaton within the Borough of North Tyneside)	13,400	596
Carlisle & Eden	1 x Contract covering Carlisle and Eden with 2 locations e.g. Split Site	11,300	502
Allerdale & Copeland	1 x Contract covering Copeland and Allerdale with 2 locations e.g. Split Site	11,300	502
<b>Totals</b>		<b>210,200</b>	<b>9,343</b>
<b>Notes:</b>			
1.	Proposed contract size reduced below needs assessment to reflect patient flow from North East Durham into Sunderland and Hartlepool.		
2.	Proposed contract size increased above needs assessment to account for patient flow into Hartlepool from North East Durham e.g. Peterlee		
3.	Proposed contract size reduced below needs assessment to reflect patient flow from Gateshead into Newcastle		
4.	Proposed contract size increased above needs assessment to reflect patient flows into Sunderland from North East Durham, ie Seaham/Murton/Easington		
5.	Proposed contract size increased above needs assessment to reflect patient flows into Newcastle from Gateshead.		
NB:	Proposed contract sizes show are slightly higher than the proposal capacity set out in Appendix 1 due to contract roundings.		