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PRESS RELEASE

FGDP(UK) responds to White Paper consultation Liberating the NHS

The Faculty of General Dental Practice (UK) has responded to the Government's consultation on the proposals set out in the White paper Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS. The FGDP(UK) applauds the Government's stated ambition to achieve and maintain world-class healthcare outcomes within the NHS, with a focus on quality standards.

The Faculty commends the proposals for a system of commissioning that empowers healthcare providers to make decisions based on local need, while stressing the necessity for careful consideration of mechanisms for assessing the oral healthcare needs of disadvantaged or special care groups, such as the elderly. The response also highlights the need for appropriate representation of primary care dentistry on the proposed NHS Commissioning Boards to ensure that decisions are based on independent advice and evidence.

Russ Ladwa, Dean of the FGDP(UK), says, "We welcome the approach to support more effective patient involvement in how services are developed, delivered and assessed. We are also pleased to see the proposals for healthcare professions to have a central role in deciding the structure, content and quality of training".

Regarding plans to introduce a new dental contract, the FGDP(UK) recognises the issues raised by the profession concerning the current contract and has welcomed the Government's intention to consult on the development and implementation of new arrangements.

In its response, the FGDP(UK) also references its ongoing work around revalidation for the dental profession and urges the Government to align education and training strategies with future revalidation requirements.
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Notes to Editors


2. The Faculty of General Dental Practice (UK) is the academic home for general dental practitioners (GDPs) and dental care professionals (DCPs) in the UK. Based at The Royal College of Surgeons of England, its mission is to enable all members of the primary dental care team to achieve and maintain the highest standards of patient care by encouraging involvement in postgraduate training and assessment, education and research. The FGDP(UK) supports the career development of both GDPs and DCPs and recognises the value of an integrated dental team in modern dentistry. For more information, please contact Charlotte Worker on 020 7869 6759 or cworker@rcseng.ac.uk. Also visit www.fgdp.org.uk for further details and follow the FGDP(UK) on Facebook (www.tinyurl.com/FGDP-FB) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/FGDP_UK).

3. Images and logos are available on request.