

Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC)

11 October 2023

Public Forum



Public Forum Statements

Ref	Name	Topic
None Received.		

Public Forum Questions

Ref	Name	Topic
Q1 (x3)	TARA MIRAN (on behalf of St Pauls Dentist Action Group)	Item 9. Dental Access for Adults and Children in Bristol



PUBLIC FORUM - STATEMENTS

None.

PUBLIC FORUM - QUESTIONS

1. THREE QUESTIONS FROM TARA MIRAN (on behalf of St Pauls Dentist Action Group):

St Pauls is an inner city area in Bristol of multiple deprivations and this June we lost our dentist when BUPA NHS Dental care closed its doors. Contract negotiations are underway between ICB and a new dentist to provide NHS dental care for the community.

We know that NHS dental care is in pitifully short supply across the South West and patients are travelling up to 40 miles to receive NHS dental care so demand will be very high when the new dentist opens its doors.

How can it be assured that this service, based in St Pauls will meet the needs of:

1. Patients who remain on the list of the recently closed BUPA St Pauls NHS Dental Care

REPLY:

People are not registered with dental practices as they are with GPs. Subject to the contract being awarded to a new provider, patient records would transfer. There would then be an opportunity for the provider to invite in/ recall patients. In line with the national contract framework for dentistry, the contract that is awarded would not put restrictions on the provider seeing patients from a certain postcode.

2. Patients who have been forced to transfer to other dental practices as a result of the recent closure of the BUPA St Pauls NHS Dental Care

REPLY:

This will be down to patient choice and provider capacity.

People that have accessed care at another dentist may have already had their patient records transferred.

3. Members of the St Pauls community who have been unable to register with BUPA St Pauls NHS Dental Care before it's closure.

REPLY:

Subject to the contract being awarded and a new provider re-opening the St Pauls practice, anyone will have the opportunity to access services as soon as the practice opens up to new patients. Subject to agreement we hope that the new contract will target those people with the highest oral health needs.