
Dental Council's Fee and Levy Consultation

Dear Marie MacKay,

Thankyou for the thorough and understandable clarification document. It was quite interesting to read and to grasp a system I have been paying into for a quarter of a century.

Perhaps this would have smoothed some waters if it had come out a few months ago.

I would like to submit that the reserve fund increase for dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries should have been spread over 2 or 3 years. I follow the logic of increasing your reserve and the failing of your refund procedure to let a natural reserve build up more organically over time.

More than any of the other categories, this one is predominately occupied by female workers, usually working for limited hours per week and grossing less per hour. It seems clear from your document that the previous reserve was set to low, thus needing a substantial top up, rather than a sudden rise in complaints. Surely this could have been done more gradually?

Could we also have some evidence of action to keep down the rising costs of PCC's. We all know these have a reputation for dragging on whilst multiple lawyers clip the ticket. Can we have some assurance that the Council is doing its best to carry out its business with efficiency?

Thankyou for the opportunity to comment.

Best Regards

Richard Stallworthy