

**GENERAL HEALTHCARE POLICY  
DIRECTORATE**



To: All NI GDPs  
BY EMAIL

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**COVID-19: FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO GENERAL DENTAL SERVICES**

Further to my letter dated 16 October 2020, I am writing to advise General Dental Practitioners (GDPs) that the Financial Support Scheme currently in place will continue for a further month, for the November-December payment cycle. The abatement factor will not apply, subject again to the current conditions of the scheme being met.

As previously advised, additional funding is in place for the rest of the financial year to support General Dental Services as the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic continues to adversely impact PPE costs and patient throughput in practices. To this end, I hope to be in a position soon to write to you with the detail of how the Financial Support Scheme will operate from January to March 2021.

In the context of the revised Dental Operational Guidance, as advised in the Acting Chief Dental Officer's letter dated 21 October 2020, and changing Covid-19 restrictions, consideration continues in relation to how to fairly and effectively allocate the available funding, with the British Dental Association engaged on an ongoing basis.

Yours sincerely



Michael O'Neill  
**Acting Director of General Healthcare Policy**