

To: General Dental Practitioners

BY EMAIL ONLY

28 April 2020

Dear Colleague

Redeployment work: Availability Declaration

Now that the essential urgent dental care centres have been established and the Financial Support Scheme (FSS) is up and running we have been working to identify suitable opportunities in regards to redeployment of the dental workforce.

Following our recent requests for volunteers for both the urgent dental care centres and support to local care homes we have received a number of responses from GDPs who have noted that they are currently unable to offer assistance outside of their home due to a variety of health concerns and other factors.

As we progress to advance and issue further redeployment opportunities we would be grateful if you could please formally identify yourself to us if you:

- (i) fall within any of the risk groups listed within the guidance from the Department of Health (DoH) referred below:

<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/health/guidance-for-healthcare-workers.pdf>

and/or

- (ii) have a very specific family arrangement that limits your ability to undertake redeployment work outside of your home.

Where any of the above scenarios apply, can you please respond by 12noon on Thursday 30th April by e-mail to GDS.Correspondence@hscni.net. Where possible it would be very helpful if you can please respond directly to the e-mail issued with this letter titled 'GDP Redeployment – Availability Declaration' and provide the following in your response (for ease of response you can use the template table included within the e-mail issued with this letter):

- Name
- GDC number
- Details of personal circumstances

This information will be retained in confidence and used only for the purposes of confirming your availability for redeployment work which is compatible with your personal circumstances.

In the event you have already identified yourself as someone who meets one of the criteria above we would be grateful if you would **please kindly re-submit** your details in response to this letter to ensure that this is duly noted and taken into consideration – thank you for your patience in doing this.

Thank you again for your ongoing support during this challenging time.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Donaldson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'M' and a circular flourish at the end.

Michael Donaldson
Assistant Director, Integrated Care
Head of Dental Services, Health & Social Care Board