

**LEICESTER CITY HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD
27 OCTOBER 2015**

Subject:	Briefing Paper on the General Dental Services – Urgent Care Consultation and Special Care Dentistry Pre-Engagement Processes
Presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board by:	Jane Green, Assistant Contract Manager – Dental and Optometry Semina Mekhani, Consultant in Dental Public Health
Author:	Jane Green, Assistant Contract Manager – Dental and Optometry, NHS England

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

- The briefing paper is to raise awareness of the dental consultation and pre-engagement processes being undertaken in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland to inform future dental procurement programmes in 2016.
- NHS England is undertaking a public consultation on General Dental Services: Urgent Dental Care for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. The dental consultation is seeking views on two options to improve access to urgent dental care services. The consultation commenced on 3 August 2015 and closes at midnight on 1 November 2015. The two options are:
 - Option 1 Urgent Dental Care Service for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (merging existing urgent dental care services into one service based from the Dental Access Centre in Leicester).
 - Option 2 Creating a new Urgent and Routine Dental Care service – 8am to 8pm in two locations (one to be based in Leicester city and the other to be based in Leicestershire/Rutland).
- The consultation has been promoted within GP practices, dental practices, pharmacies, libraries and community centres. The consultation document and questionnaire are available on line and hard copies are available at the Dental Access Centre, to patients attending the dental out of hours service or a copy can be requested. A public meeting is being held on 7 October 2015 between 6 to 8pm at the Adult Education Centre, 2 Wellington Street, Leicester.
- The Special Care Dentistry Service pre-engagement process for Leicestershire and Lincolnshire has been extended to give patients, carers, wider health community and key stakeholders the opportunity to provide feedback to assist with improving existing services. The extended pre-engagement process was undertaken between: 17 August 2015 to 25 September 2015.

- NHS England will consider the outcomes from the dental consultation and pre-engagement processes in late November/early December 2015 to determine the preferred service model and future service arrangements to be procured.
- The procurement programmes will commence in January 2016 and new contracting arrangements will be operational on 1 December 2016.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Health and Wellbeing Board is requested to:

- Note the paper for information.
- Provide views on the options for urgent dental care service.
- To indicate any areas where the special care dentistry service could be extended/improved.