

Our Ref: JF/vt

2 February 2006

emailed to: [alwinmcgibbon@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:alwinmcgibbon@warwickshire.gov.uk)

Alwin McGibbon – Health Scrutiny Officer for:  
Councillor Roodhouse  
Corporate Review Team Performance & Development Director  
PO Box 9  
Shire Hall  
Warwick  
LV34 4RR

Dear Councillor Roodhouse,

**Re: Dental Out of Hours**

Thank you for noting the contents of my letter on the above topic sent to you on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2006.

I prepared a paper for our Board meeting in January based on the information in the letter I shared with you.

Rugby PCT's Board has approved the recommendation that the dental out of hours service, would be provided by the Rugby Urgent Care Service based at St. Cross Hospital Rugby, with dental provision in Bedworth Nuneaton on the rare occasions it would be required.

This option was also discussed and agreed with our Patient Forum, the Professional Executive Committee and our local dentists.

We need to set up the system at RUCS and agree the contract with the Bedworth dentist to deliver a service from April 1<sup>st</sup> 2006.

Therefore, I would be grateful if you could provide us with an Overview and Scrutiny Committee response as soon as possible.

I would be happy to meet with you to discuss this if it would expedite the process.

Many thanks

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jill Freer".

Jill Freer  
**Director of Patient Services**

Swift Park  
Old Leicester Road  
Rugby  
CV21 1DZ

Tel: 01788 550860  
Fax: 01788 513000

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23<sup>rd</sup> December 2005

Alwin McGibbon  
Corporate Review Team Performance &  
Development Director for  
Councillor Roodhouse  
PO Box 9  
Shire Hall  
Warwick  
LV34 4RR

Dear Councillor Roodhouse,

**Re: Dental Out of Hours Service**

I am writing to you on behalf of Rugby Primary Care Trust (PCT). We are currently working with our constituent dentists to ensure we have a dental contract in place for them by April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006.

As part of the contractual arrangements Rugby PCT will become responsible for dental emergencies out of hours from April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006.

In order to fulfil this obligation we have been reviewing options for this provision with colleagues in North and South Warwickshire and Coventry Teaching PCT.

A dentist with existing high levels of activity out of hours will usually wish to maintain this activity to ensure their continuing level of income.

Indeed the PCT is required to maintain this level of income as long as the dentist will provide the service required.

Such a dentist has come forward in Bedworth, North Warwickshire. He already provides a high quality service, with dental nurse cover, to North Warwickshire. This activity is already in the contract's financial baseline and as such is unlikely to incur any additional cost to the PCTs in Rugby or North Warwickshire. Patients will have to travel further than they do at present to receive emergency care, but this will be required on very rare occasions. Our existing medical out of hours service will cover dental emergencies such as persistent toothache, or a need for antibiotics until the patient's usual dentist is available.

We would like to seek your views on our approach to this. We have undertaken an option appraisal of other alternatives for out of hours dental emergencies, and will enclose it for your perusal.

These alternatives include: using the existing out of hours rota in Rugby (which would be expensive and the dentists are not keen to undertake)

- Sharing a service with Coventry PCT
- Using facilities in secondary care
- Setting up a new facility in Rugby PCT's Walk in Centre

I look forward to hearing your views on the proposal that we share our dental emergency Out of Hours Service with North Warwickshire PCT.

Best wishes,  
Yours sincerely,



Jill Freer  
**Director of Patient Services**

**OPTION APPRAISAL  
 FOR DENTAL EMERGENCIES OUT OF HOURS  
 FROM 1ST APRIL, 2006**

Proposal	Risks	Cost Effectiveness	Quality	Access
Existing rota in Rugby	High	No	Good	Good
Secondary Care (e.g. Walsgrave Coventry)	Low	No	Good	Poor
Bedworth North Warwickshire PCT	Low	Yes	Good	Poor
Coventry PCT	Low	No	Good	Poor