Framework established for Steele recommendations

The framework for implementing the recommendations of the Steele review into NHS dentistry has been established by the Department of Health (DoH).

According to the implementation structure, there will be five work streams that the Programme Board will be looking into:

- Pathway, Quality & Workforce Development
- Commissioning Development & Business Support
- Contract Flows and Evaluation
- Communications, Patient Empowerment & Information
- Finance

Stakeholders from across the profession have been invited to participate across the streams, including SHA/PCTs, Clinicians (including Dentists and DCPs), Deanseries, NHS Choices/Dirrect, DoH, Patient Groups etc.

One group who has extended their support across the board is the British Dental Association (BDA). The BDA has committed to work with the framework for improving the situation for NHS dentistry and have the courage to grasp the opportunities the Steele review has presented us with to improve dental services.

“There are five main work streams and there will be an executive Committee member on each of them. We have also committed to bringing another GDPC member to each of the work streams and will provide deputes as well if needed.”

Lead author of the review, Prof Jimmy Steele, said: “Clearly, I am delighted to see that, even in difficult financial times, there seems to be a commitment to maintain the momentum of the review, and the Health Select Committee report which preceded it.”

Winning smiles

A dentist from Washington has won the 2009 FDI & Wrigley Photographic Award

Financial clearing

Ray Prince highlights 10 key questions to ask as you consider your finances

On a mission

Barbara Koffman reports on her experiences in Uganda bringing dental relief to the country