

**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO
HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE**

The General Dental Services (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016

SR 2016 No. 334

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared by the Department of Health to accompany the Statutory Rule (details above) which is laid before the Northern Ireland Assembly.
- 1.2. The Statutory Rule is made under Articles 55A(1)(a), 61(1) and (2), 106 and 107(6) of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 and is subject to the negative resolution procedure.

2. Purpose

- 2.1. This Statutory rule makes a minor consequential amendment to the Health and Personal Social Services General Dental Services Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1993 ("the principal Regulations") which regulate the terms on which General Dental Services are provided under the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972.

3. Background

- 3.1. The principal Regulations provide for an obligation on the Department to consult and publish numerical determinations on certain matters in a statement called the Statement of Dental Remuneration. The regulations also place an obligation on dentists to keep and retain full, accurate and contemporaneous patient records in relation to any treatment provided to a patient under Health Service care arrangements.
- 3.2. Regulation 2 of this Statutory Rule amends regulation 19 of the principal regulations to reflect the new numbering of determinations relating to matters set out in the Statement of Dental Remuneration following the ceasing of commitment payments to dentists.
- 3.3. Regulation 3 amends the dentists terms of service contained in Schedule 2 of the principal regulations to enable a dentist to keep all referred forms of records detailed in the Regulations, including the practice record form, in computerised form.

4. Consultation

- 4.1. The Department of Health consulted with the British Dental Association as representative of the views of dentists in Northern Ireland.

5. Equality Impact

- 5.1. Consideration has been given to the equality and human rights implications of the Regulations. They are considered to be compliant with section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 .

6. Regulatory Impact

- 6.1. As the Regulations will impose no additional costs on businesses, charities or the voluntary sector, a full Regulatory Impact Assessment has not been considered necessary.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. None.

8. Section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998

- 8.1. The Regulations are considered compatible with section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998.

9. EU Implications

- 9.1. Not applicable

10. Parity or Replicatory Measure

- 10.1. Not applicable

11. Additional Information

- 11.1. Not applicable.