

# The Community Dental Service

## Statement of Purpose

The Community Dental Service serves the community by providing direct patient care and preventive programmes to people who, because of their special needs, are unable to access appropriate dental services elsewhere. We will be a model of best practice in providing oral healthcare which is high quality, evidence-based and timely.

## Values

### In order to ensure that we achieve our statement of purpose we will:

- Ensure that we have the necessary **skills and competencies** to deliver a quality service
- Ensure that our delivery of oral healthcare service enshrines **best practice and the available evidence-base** and is open to innovative approaches to working
- Ensure that we have robust **accountability arrangements**
- **Manage our resources**, including our time, as efficiently and effectively as possible
- Demonstrate a **commitment** for fairness, equality and respect for each other and our patients
- Promote **team-working** and working in partnership with others both inside and outside the health sector.

## Blueprint for Success

### 1. Defining the Business

#### (a) *Providing oral care for people with Special Needs:*

- a learning disability
- a compromising medical condition
- a mental illness
- a physical disability
- housebound/institutional resident

#### (b) *GA/Sedation for patients with disproportionate anxiety or behaviour difficulties:*

- adults
- children

#### (c) *Socially disadvantaged children:*

- children identified as high risk by demographic or health indicators
- children who are referred to, or have used, the GA extraction service
- children referred by other dentists or other healthcare professionals

#### (d) *Evidence-based oral health improvement programmes:*

- an evidence-based caries reduction programme for under 5 year olds is embedded in the 20% most deprived wards in each Trust area;
- all other oral health education and promotion programmes must follow regional policies and directives. Where possible, these should be fully integrated with other Public Health programmes

#### (e) *Needs Assessment (Epidemiology)*

- screening groups identified as part of an overall strategy
- undertaking national and local surveys as directed by the Authority

### 2. Managing the Business

#### (a) *Production of annual business plans*

- defining long and short-term objectives
- setting targets
- identifying milestones
- producing activity returns and management information
- publish annual report

#### (b) *Staff*

- defining posts
- individual job plans
- annual appraisal
- staff development plans

#### (c) *Research, Audit and Evaluation*

- undertaking/ facilitating agreed research
- take part in uni- and multi-disciplinary audit, as required

### 3. Governance

- develop sound system of internal control that supports achievement of targets and objectives
- review adequacy of clinical governance, risk management and standards compliance
- participate in an annual accountability review with the SHSSA