



NHS earnings - “flatlining”

NASDAL (National Association of Specialist Dental Accountants and Lawyers) members recently met for their biannual meeting. The aim of these regular meetings is for NASDAL members to continue to deliver knowledge and expertise to their clients by sharing information and pooling resources to achieve desired outcomes.

Martin Woodrow, Director of Member Services at British Dental Association was on hand to cover the increase in new contract values for England and Wales. This saw an increase of 0.7% in England and 1.1% in Wales – the differential is caused largely by the use of the CPI (Consumer Price Index) measure of inflation in England and the RPI (Retail Price Index) measure in Wales. Martin commented, “NHS earnings certainly seem to be flatlining and even with these small contract increases, there is no guarantee that the awards are being passed on to associates.”

Other topics discussed included:

- The apparent possibility of transferring PDS Orthodontic contracts via the partnership route
- Permanent Guarantees. The need for NHS England to change the current situation so that the new buyer of a practice can replace the vendor in providing the guarantee
- The generally poor position of associates and their static incomes
- Issues arising around the definition of ‘workers’ under auto-enrolment

Alan Suggett, specialist dental accountant and partner in UNW LLP, said, “These biannual meetings are tremendously helpful to all of us as they allow a number of discussions to take place and useful information to be shared amongst members. This obviously means that those dentists who use a NASDAL accountant or lawyer benefit from all the knowledge and know-how we can share.”

ENDS

Note to editors:

NASDAL, the National Association of Specialist Dental Accountants and Lawyers, was set up in 1998. It is an association of accountants and lawyers who specialise in acting for and looking after the accounting, tax and legal affairs of dentists. It is the pre-eminent centre of excellence for accounting, tax and legal matters concerning dentists. Its members are required to pass strict admission criteria, and it regulates the performance of its members to ensure high standards of technical knowledge and service.

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