



Osborne creating a 'corporates' charter'

Chancellor George Osborne's recent announcement that he is to implement some of the provisions of the 2012 OFT report could be bad news for the majority of GDPs according to the National Association of Specialist Dental Accountants and Lawyers (NASDAL).

These provisions could include more transparent price lists in dental practices and clarification on what is and what isn't available under NHS dental contracts. However, what is particularly concerning to NASDAL is the idea of time-limited NHS contracts open to any qualified provider.

Alan Suggett, partner in charge of accountant UNW LLP's dental business unit and NASDAL Media Officer commented, "Of course the detail at this stage is a little hazy. But, if time limited contracts do become a reality, then I really do see this as a 'corporates' charter' in the sense that only large bodies corporate will have the financial wherewithal to invest in practices that cost hundreds of thousands to set up and still see a return in a relatively short time. Indeed, we could see corporates setting up squats and lose money initially – something independent GDPs will never be in a position to do."

"Some have suggested that Orthodontic PDS contracts have been time limited for a number of years and seen no major issues. In the case of GDPs, this ignores the simple fact that the less specialist you are, the easier it is for a competitor to enter the marketplace."

"We were pleased to see a robust response from the BDA and will continue to watch with interest."

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.

For further information please contact Chris Baker on 0845 370 2211/07947 470896 or email chris.baker@coronadental.co.uk