



The state of NHS dentistry in North Yorkshire

Background & key issues for dentistry

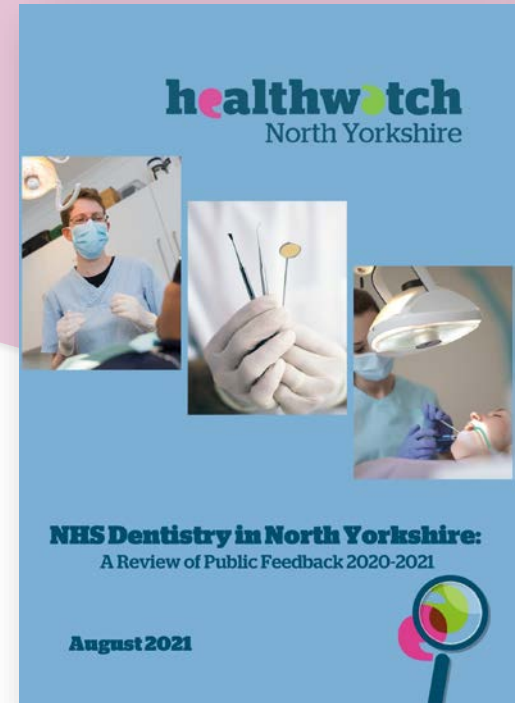
- Centralised NHS England contract for NHS dentistry established in 2006 not fit for purpose.
- Dental funding does not meet the needs of local populations.
- Lack of qualified dental practitioners being trained or available.
- NHS dentists leaving the profession and/or going private.
- A review of NHS dental contract and service began this year.
- Severe shortage of NHS dental places for the public.

Dentistry concerns

- Dentistry has been a major concern for us during 2021
- Over 12 months we've heard from almost 200 people about dentistry
- No.1 issue – lack of ability to register with an NHS dentist
- COVID-19 has exacerbated an already fragile service
- Height of the pandemic NHS dental practices were running at 40% capacity
- System has pushed people to go private & pay huge costs

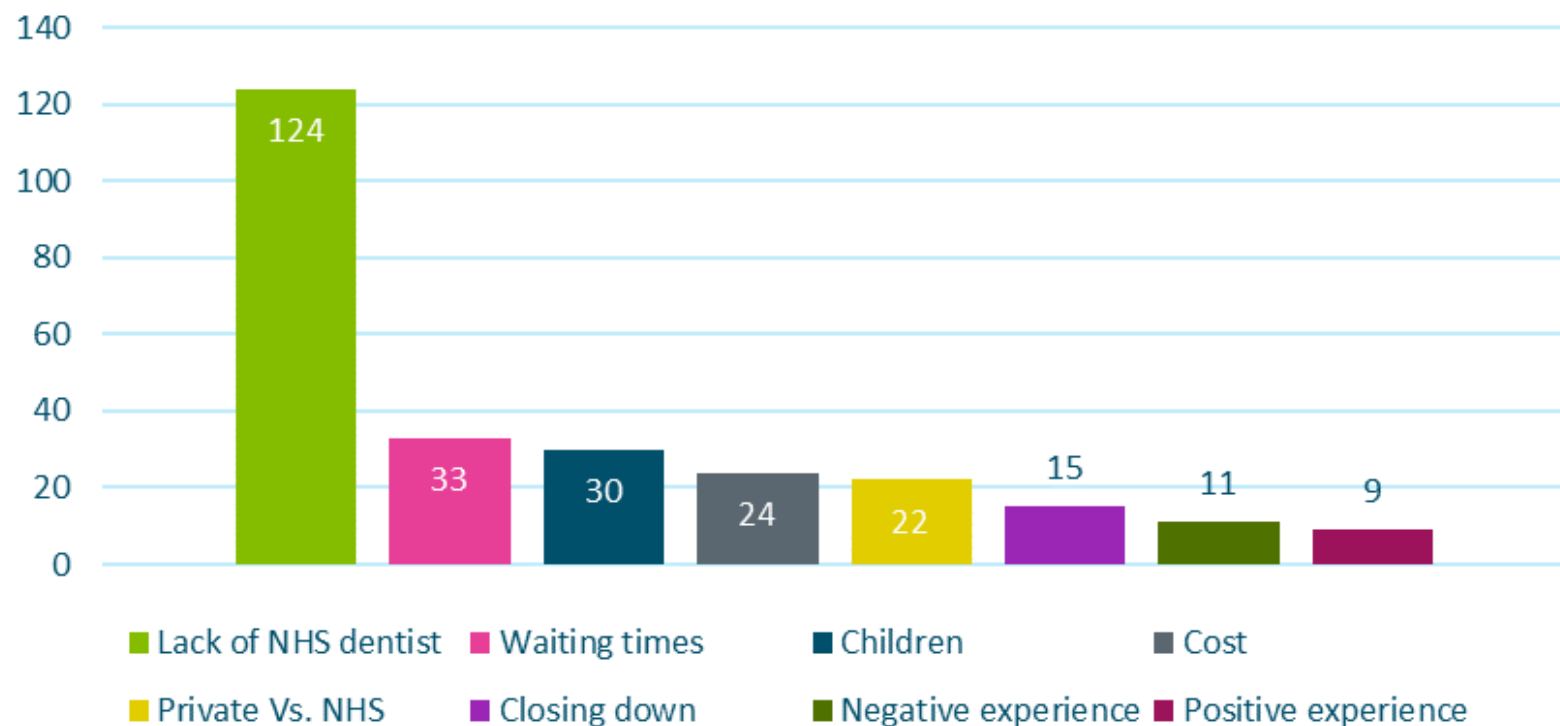
Our findings over 12 months

- 77 NHS dental practices across North Yorkshire
- One practice per 8,000 people
- Only 2 practices taking on NHS clients
- Waiting lists for the public can be as long as 3 years, with over 1,000 people on a list
- Public not seeking treatment as no places and can't afford to go private
- Children's oral health suffering as no access to places



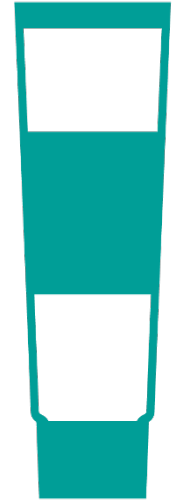


Volume of themes within dental feedback



Current action & next steps

- HWNY raised issues around dentistry with NYCC health & scrutiny committee
- HWNY working with NHS Public Health dental commissioners on new procurement of dental services
- HWNY to join new HCV dental network to support planning & commissioning of services



Our recommendations

- New oral health task force for North Yorkshire (or ICS area)
- Greater public involvement to shape existing & new services
- Greater role for the new ICS to commission and plan for NHS dental provision and services
- More NHS dentists, in terms of access & affordability
- Improved clarity of information of NHS dentist locations
- Dental practices explore opportunities to support people's general health

