New Director of Dentistry

A new Director of Dentistry has been appointed in Lanarkshire. Following a formal interview process, Shelley Percival has accepted the role after fulfilling the interim post since 1 January 2022. Shelley will continue to provide leadership on all issues relating to dentistry in NHS Lanarkshire, ensuring high quality, safe and effective oral care across the area.

“I’m absolutely delighted to accept the position” said Shelley.

“Where my interim role has given me the opportunity to support colleagues during all the challenges of the pandemic, as we recover and look to the future, I look forward to building on the strong relationships and culture of partnership that exists in Lanarkshire. Our unremitting focus, of course, remains on looking after the dental and oral health of local people.”

As well as promoting the improvement and overall quality of care, Shelley will also provide leadership in reducing any oral health inequalities across the area. She will report to Soumen Sengupta, director of health and social care for South Lanarkshire.

“A fundamental and guiding principle of our future direction is the continued expertise, compassion and focus of our staff and partners supporting the health and wellbeing of people in Lanarkshire” said Soumen.

“As we take careful steps out of the pandemic, the dental community has a really important and continued contribution to make to the overall effort of delivering health and care fit for the demands of today – and the future.

“Shelley brings a wealth of experience to the role and she is well placed to continue the excellent leadership she has demonstrated in the interim position. We are delighted to formally welcome her to the director post.”

Shelley replaces Anne Moore as Director of Dentistry who officially retired on 31 March 2022. Prior to taking up the post of interim director at the turn of the year, Shelley has been the Clinical Director for general dental services in Lanarkshire since October 2020. She will fulfil a clinical director role alongside her director of dentistry responsibilities, providing a single professional source of advice regarding all aspects of dentistry.

Shelley graduated from Glasgow University in 1997 and worked in practices in Whitburn, Hamilton and Falkirk before setting up Clyde Valley Dental Practice in 2006. She has pursued post-graduate education by completing a diploma in Forensic Medical Science in 2001 and gained the Membership of the Faculty of General Dental Practitioners in London in 2007.

Shelley has been a vocational trainer and also a tutor for the Faculty of General Dental Practice diploma.

In her spare time, she enjoys time with her family and running marathons throughout the world.
Management of Dental Patients Taking Anticoagulant or Antiplatelet Drugs

In March 2022, the Scottish Dental Clinical Effectiveness Programme published the second edition of the guidance document Management of Dental Patients Taking Anticoagulant or Antiplatelet Drugs. This is an update to the original publication from 2015 and the scope of this document is to offer guidance to dental practitioners in both assessment and management of bleeding risks. This document also details the specifics of management of patients who are on a range of anticoagulant or antiplatelet medications, depending on the procedures they will be undergoing.

The guidance remains largely unchanged from the original publication but now has the addition of specific information on the increasingly common direct oral anticoagulant edoxaban and more detail around the management of patients who are on low molecular weight heparins. This document also makes reference to environmental sustainability in relation to oral health and this specific topic.

An introductory video presentation is available along with the full guidance document and quick reference. This can be accessed at: www.sdcep.org.uk/published-guidance/anticoagulants-and-antiplatelets

Consultant Orthodontist Paul Mooney

NHS Lanarkshire welcomes Paul Mooney, consultant orthodontist.

Paul completed his Bachelor of Dental Surgery degree in 2009 and has worked in a number of positions both in primary and secondary care settings.

Paul undertook specialty training in orthodontics and was based in Kingston Hospital and Guy’s & St Thomas’ Hospitals, passing the Membership in Orthodontics examination in 2016.

Paul said: “It is an exciting time to be joining NHS Lanarkshire and I am grateful for the opportunity to be part of this forward-thinking department.

“I particularly enjoy the multi-disciplinary aspect of the role. However, I am aware of the challenges, particularly those facing the orthognathic service at this time.”

Paul was successful in the Intercollegiate Specialty Fellowship Examination in Orthodontics in 2021 and joined the orthodontic department at NHS Lanarkshire in February 2022.

Speaking about Lanarkshire, Paul said: “Although I have never lived in Lanarkshire, I have family connections there and so I am familiar with the area.

“When I was younger I was a long-suffering Hamilton Accies fan, even witnessing the odd win at New Douglas Park. However, I have lapsed over the years and noted a marked improvement in my personal wellbeing as a result.”

Outside of work Paul enjoys sports and outdoor activities particularly running and water sports. In addition, he also enjoys spending time travelling with family and friends.

Fluoride recommendations paper

The Consultants in Dental Public Health Group in Scotland has recently revised its fluoride recommendations paper which was last published in 2017.

The summary of key changes include:
- Recognition of joint water fluoridation statement.
- Updated references (new version of Delivering Better Oral Health).
- Strengthened messaging around high strength fluoride toothpaste.

Smile4life: a co-designed educational and training resource guide

The second edition of the *Smile4life: a co-designed educational and training resource guide* has been published and is aimed at professionals working within the homeless sector. This guide used a co-design approach that involved interviews and workshops with staff and people with lived experience of homelessness.

The resource is designed for third sector staff such as peer mentors, volunteers, support workers, as well as health and social care practitioners. It aims to enable practitioners to provide evidence-based, tailored oral health promotion sessions through having meaningful conversations with people experiencing homelessness.

The pandemic has exacerbated existing inequalities and the publication of this guide is therefore timely. It raises awareness of the role that practitioners can play in terms of making every contact a health promotion opportunity for those facing homelessness to secure good oral health.

The training resource highlights three key messages:

- Improving the oral health of homeless people in Scotland is a key government priority.
- Good oral health will contribute to overall health and wellbeing and this will help people move from homelessness.
- Toothbrushing, diet and dental visits are the three main steps towards good oral health.


New President of BASCD

Albert Yeung, NHS Lanarkshire’s consultant in dental public health, was recently inaugurated as president of the British Association for the Study of Community Dentistry (BASCD). The presidency was passed over from Maria Morgan, former senior lecturer in dental public health at Cardiff University, who successfully served as BASCD president between 2020 and 2022.

BASCD is the UK’s professional association for the science, philosophy and practice of promoting the oral health of populations and groups in society with a specific emphasis on prevention and control of oral diseases and conditions.

Originally from Hong Kong, Albert studied dentistry at the University of Glasgow and graduated in 1989. He has a diverse background of experience working in dentistry in the UK, including general dental practice, hospitals, community dental service and teaching in dental schools.

Albert was sworn in as president during the BASCD summer scientific meeting which was held in Glasgow in June 2022.

This was BASCD’s first in-person conference since 2019 and attracted a wide range of delegates from across the UK with the theme ‘Build Back Better: Inclusion, Integration and Innovation’. The conference programme included a keynote address from Professor Maggie Rae, president of the Faculty of Public Health (FPH). This follows the recent partnership between BASCD and the FPH, with BASCD acting as the special interest group for oral health. The social programme included a mix of Chinese and Scottish traditions such as Chinese dancing, a bagpiper, highland dancing and a ceilidh band.

On taking up the role, Albert said: “I’d like to thank the BASCD for the opportunity of being the BASCD president for 2022/23. It is a huge honour and I look forward to serving as the BASCD president in the coming year.”

The presidential address is available at: [https://youtu.be/DtheJGxmoWI](https://youtu.be/DtheJGxmoWI).
Oral health podcasts

During the pandemic, more and more people have moved towards online/digital channels to access information and services. Digital adoption has taken a quantum leap at both organisational and consumer levels. More and more people are now listening to podcasts for information.

As a direct response to the pandemic and to keep up with growing trend, the oral health team from the health improvement department created a series of oral health podcasts to communicate oral health messages/information to the Lanarkshire population in a user friendly way.

The four bite-size oral health information podcasts are:

- Our oral health (part 1)
- Our oral health (part 2)
- Looking after our children’s oral health
- Reducing sugar in our diet.

The podcasts can be downloaded from: www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/dcml8rd6nx5hqyx1nwrf/h?dl=0&rlkey=gtzsy2u9p0hvjqmwnjsamj39i

Scottish Local Dental Committees – Lifetime Achievement Awards

Two Lanarkshire general dental practitioners were presented with lifetime achievement awards at the 22nd Conference of Scottish Local Dental Committees held in Stirling in April 2022. To be considered for this prestigious award, nominees must have shown a commitment to dentistry through lengthy service on a local dental committee. Both dentists are pictured receiving their award from Elizabeth Glass, Conference Treasurer.

Gordon Stewart joined the Lanarkshire Local Dental Committee (LLDC) in November 1996. He also served on NHS Lanarkshire’s (NHSL) area dental advisory committee, area dental committee – GP sub-committee and the primary care dental committee. Gordon recently retired from the NHSL dental list after 31 years’ dedicated service to the provision of general dental services. This was delivered from his practice in The Village, Cumbernauld which he owned with his wife and fellow dentist Marion. In nominating Gordon for his award, LLDC highlighted Gordon’s skills as “an invaluable contributor to debates about the profession, who was always capable of providing reasoned argument and gifted at finding practical solutions to difficult and complicated issues being faced”.

Kevin Clark first attended a meeting of the LLDC in April 1994. He joined the NHSL dental list in January 1991 and continues to practise dentistry between the four dental practices he owns within the Blantyre, Cambuslang and East Kilbride areas. In nominating Kevin for his award, LLDC highlighted how he instigated sessions for the fit testing of FFP3 masks and arranged for many Lanarkshire dentists to undertake fit testing training so that dental teams were able to quickly return to treating patients during the pandemic.