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NHSScotland Dental Colleagues

Date 19<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Our Ref PC/NPA/2021-01-19

Dear Colleague

### **DECISION FOR FUTURE FUNDING FOR PRIMARY CARE PPE PROVISION**

A paper went to the Cabinet Secretary on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2020 with detail on what a mixed model for funding for personal protective equipment (PPE) would mean for Primary Care (General Medical Services, General Dental Services, Community Pharmacy and Community Optometry), which was approved at that point. This set the principle that a fair allocation of PPE would be provided free of charge until the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 to the four Primary Care Contractor (PCC) groups to support NHS activity. Following authorisation, National Procurement (NP) were asked to explore the options for a direct distribution model to support PPE delivery to PCC groups and establish a 'pull' system to avoid stockpiling and allow online ordering. This work has already begun and the system continues to be refined.

A commitment was made to do a formal review before 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021 to set out what would happen beyond this financial year. This review has taken place and has resulted in approval to continue funding PPE under the current arrangements to the end of June 2021. This will provide PCCs with certainty regarding PPE supply for NHS activity past this financial year as well as supporting the vaccination programme for Covid-19, where required.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Paul Cushley'.

**PAUL CUSHLEY**  
Director of Dentistry & Joint Chair  
Primary Care PPE Steering Group



Chair Keith Redpath  
Chief Executive Colin Sinclair

*NHS National Services Scotland is the common name of the Common Services Agency for the Scottish Health Service.*