



## Points from Council

President, Sally Simpson, welcomed all members to the Council Meeting which was held on Friday 21 January 2011 at the BDA Headquarters, Wimpole Street, London.

The agenda covered the following points which are pertinent to all members:

**Appointment of Directors.** The President had previously circulated information to Council members with reference to the Appointment of Directors. The President informed the Council that three BSDHT Directors would be required to replace outgoing members. Sarah Lawson, Suzanne Ellis and Janet Urwin volunteered to become Directors.

**Council Representatives on the Executive Team.** Michaela O'Neill and Deborah Sheather were elected as the representatives from Council to the Executive Team.

**Remuneration guidelines.** The Honorary Treasurer distributed guidelines for the increase in remuneration. The increase in remuneration is 3.3% based on the rate of inflation.

### Regional Group Representatives' Report from Council.

Feedback received from Regional Group Representatives was that:

- the standardised powerpoint presentation produced following Council meetings, to be included in the programme of Regional Group Meetings, was useful and ensured that all Regional Groups received the same information.

### Regional Group Representatives Feedback Reports.

- The Eastern Regional Group Representative reported that some members of the Group were concerned about the lack of support from some dental practices in reference to complying with HTM 01-05. The Group is planning to conduct a survey amongst its members.
- The London Group Representative reported that they had carried out a survey amongst its members as to why they have not attended meetings, which revealed that a lack of childcare facilities was an issue and that they would investigate the feasibility of providing appropriate facilities for future meetings. Members of London Group would support a BSDHT Facebook initiative and requested that the Executive Team consider not raising the subscription rates next year.
- The North East Regional Representative reported that a member has complained that she had been disappointed in the response she had received from BSDHT when she recently asked for advice. The President responded by apologising to any member who is unhappy with their communications with BSDHT and urged that they write to BSDHT with their grievance.
- The North West Regional Group Representative had nothing to report.
- The Northern Ireland Regional Group Representative reported Regional Group members were in support of:
  - the appointment of a website feeder.
  - would like OHC speakers to have email addresses on the end of their presentations, as there is never enough time for questions.
  - closing down 'Smile Lounges'.
  - the increase of the annual subscription rate.
  - the election of Julie Rosse to President-Elect.
  - that committee members are funded to attend meetings by Regional Group funds.
- The Scottish Regional Group Representative reported that one member had been dissatisfied with her experience with LawCare. She also reported that some companies were very poor in responding to invitations to their meetings, which made planning the meetings more difficult. The President responded that a recent survey carried out amongst BSDHT members revealed that members had

found LawCare very useful and that the membership had requested that BSDHT continued to provide their services as a benefit of membership. The President asked Regional Group Representatives to let members know that if they are dissatisfied by the service supplied by Lawcare they have the option to write to BSDHT who will in turn communicate this to Lawcare. Regional Group Co-ordinator asked Scottish Group Trade Liaison Officer to liaise directly if help was required regarding the 'Trade'.

- The South East Regional Group Representative had nothing to report.
- There was no representative for South West and South Wales Regional Group present at the meeting.
- The South West Peninsula Regional Group Representative had nothing to report.
- The Southern Regional Group Representative had nothing to report.
- The Midlands Regional Group Representative reported that some members had been confused about the Patient Group Directive, which has since been clarified. Members had commented that there was an element of 'meeting fatigue' as a result of the ISDH in Glasgow, followed by Regional Group autumn meetings and the GAM at Dental Showcase.
- The Thames Valley Regional Group Representative suggested that a 'Medical Emergency' video could be put on the website. It was reported that Dental Nurses are carrying out Tooth Whitening procedures in 'Smile Lounges' using 6% hydrogen peroxide and that a supervising Dentist is not always on site. The GDC have received 600 complaints over the last three years about Smile Lounges. It is deemed that the dental nurses are working outside their 'Scope of Practice' and these individuals should be reported to the GDC. Complaints about the company Smile Lounges should be directed to Trading Standards. It was agreed that BSDHT will investigate the possibility of putting a Medical Emergencies video on the website.

#### **Direct Access/GDC Scope of Practice and Standards Review**

The President and President-Elect, have attended an introductory meeting with the newly appointed Chief Executive of the GDC during which she confirmed that BSDHT were in support of direct access for patients to a Dental Hygienist and Therapist. The President has written to the Standards Committee of the GDC urging that they consider the issue. The President has organised, in collaboration with British Association of Dental Therapists, to address all members of GDC Council to raise the awareness about the advantages to patients of direct access.

**BSDHT Website Feeder Post.** Emma Fisher is the newly appointed Website Feeder. She informed Council members of her role and her activities so far. Dental Directory has very generously donated £10,000 towards the Website feeder's salary.

**Website Re-design.** Elected member, Deborah Sheather, explained progress so far for the website re-design. It is anticipated that initial designs for the website will be available in March/April.

**CQC/enhanced CRB checks.** BSDHT have produced an information sheet which will be posted on the website for any member who may have a query about enhanced CRB checks. The President informed members to communicate the need to BSDHT regional group members to be aware and compliant with all CQC policies and procedures within their working environments, in preparation for the CQC inspections. Members may do this by discussing in the implications of CQC registration with their practice principles and managers.

**CEO Report.** The President informed all present that after liaising with CEO's from other dental organisations, a possible job description had been drafted and objectives the Society would wish a person in this position to achieve had been identified. It is anticipated that initially the post will be part-time. The next step is to investigate the financial feasibility to fund the post.

**All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for Dentistry.** Both the President and Editor of Dental Health and DH Contact have attended meetings of the APPG for Dentistry on behalf of BSDHT. BSDHT is now a member of the Stakeholder group which gives BSDHT direct access to MPs.

**Dr Leatherman Award.** A request for any nominations will be advertised in Dental Health/DH Contact in the near future.

**Nominations for Vice-President.** Peter Ward and Peter Galgut are the current Vice-Presidents. The President asked Regional group Representatives to ask members for any suggestions for future Vice-Presidents and bring suggested nominations to the next Council Meeting.

**Cosmetic injections and fillers.** Sally Taber, Director, Independent Health Advisory Service (IHAS) has contacted the Society to ask if BSDHT is in support of the inclusion of Dental Hygienists and Therapists onto the IHAS register of Injectable Cosmetic Providers. This meeting had followed a letter by a Dental Hygienist to IHAS requesting that Dental Hygienists and Therapists be included on the Register. It was decided that the opinion of the whole membership would be sought before responding to this request. Regional group representatives will ask members at Regional Group Meetings to gauge the opinion of members.

**BSDHT and social networking.** BSDHT would like to take advantage of social networking to further promote BSDHT and provide another benefit of membership. The President put forward a proposal that BSDHT proceed to develop a social networking site for BSDHT members.

**Proposed by:** Amanda Gallie

**Seconded by:** Michaela O'Niell

#### **OHC Bournemouth 18/19 November 2011**

The programme is almost complete and there are plans to expand the parallel sessions. BSDHT are very mindful of increasing costs and especially in the current economic climate are looking at ways to keep the costs to a minimum. 40% of the delegate conference rate is spent on food. Current costing indicates that the delegate rate will need to increase by 12% on the 2009 rate.

It is the aim of BSDHT to break even for running the Conference and not to make a profit. It was decided that members would be asked if they would like to compromise on the catering in order to keep costs down.

#### **BDA Conference Manchester 19/20/21 May 2011.**

BSDHT are hosting a session at the BDA Conference on Friday 20 May 2011. Members are encouraged to attend and support BSDHT at this event.

#### **Dental Showcase, Birmingham NEC 20/21/22 October 2011.**

BSDHT will be in attendance at the Showcase for three days.

#### **BSP Meeting, Northern Ireland 26/27 May 2011.**

BSDHT will have a stand at the BSP meeting on Friday 27 May 2011.

**Retirement of BSDHT Administrator.** After 30 years of service, Ann Craddock, announced her plan to retire in July 2011. BSDHT wish to organise an event to acknowledge her years of dedicated service. Details of this occasion will be advertised in Dental Health to ensure all members are informed and have the opportunity to attend the event.