General Dental Council: Information released under the Freedom of Information Act

Date released: 16 March 2021

Request:

The impact of COVID-19 on dental professionals.


Research report to be found at: https://www.gdc-uk.org/docs/default-source/research/the-impact-of-covid-19-on-dental-professionals9a8621e8-2515-47b6-b116-0cc565bf61b.pdf?sfvrsn=abfedcbe_5

Please could you state the cost of the research undertaken by ECORYS that resulted in the report referenced above.

Please could you confirm that such cost will fall to the Registrants having been met from their ARFs? [As opposed to being funded by external subsidy for example].

Response:

I write further to my email of 23 February 2021 acknowledging your information request of 21 February 2021 regarding research undertaken by ECORYS on the impact of Covid-19 on the dental profession. You asked the following questions:

Could you please state the cost of the research undertaken by ECORYS for the report on the impact of Covid-19 on the dental profession?

Please could you confirm that this cost will be met by registrants through the Annual Retention Fee (as opposed to being funded by an external subsidy)?

Your request for information has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 the (FOI Act).

Putting the decision to carry out the research into context, the General Dental Council (GDC) consider that understanding the impacts of COVID-19 on oral health and dentistry is key in ensuring that dental professionals are able to effectively respond to the needs of the public and patients, and that they are adequately supported to do so safely as the sector begins to recover.

The cost of the research undertaken by ECORYS for the report on the impact of Covid-19 on the dental profession was £24,800 plus VAT. The published research is part of a wider programme of research which is being disseminated via reports, blogs and an online panel event.

The research was funded by the GDC. Just under 95% of the GDC’s income is generated by the Annual Retention Fee.