

2 November 2018

Ms Alessandra Peck
Executive Officer
Dental Board of Australia

Via email: dentalboardconsultation@ahpra.gov.au

Dear Ms Peck,

RE: Consultation on the proposal to close the Public Sector Dental Workforce Scheme

Thank you for providing the Australian Dental Association (ADA) with the opportunity to participate in the preliminary and confidential consultation on the proposal to close the Public Sector Dental Workforce Scheme (PSDWS).

The ADA notes the options proposed in the consultation paper and supports Option 2 – Close the PSDWS.

It is clear from the commentary in the consultation paper that there is recognition by the Board that the current supply of dentists through domestic universities and other migration pathways is more than adequate to meet demand. Further, it would appear from the data provided, that many of the candidates providing services under the PSDWS are performing poorly when assessed by the Australian Dental Council indicating that they may not be meeting the standards of practice expected in Australia which creates a risk for the public receiving treatment.

It is noted that as part of option 2, the Board propose to also remove the current guideline, Guidelines on Limited Registration – Limited registration of dental practitioners for postgraduate training or supervised practice (section 66) June 2012 to reflect the removal of the pathway. The ADA notes that this guideline also provides advice to overseas qualified dentists who may wish to undertake postgraduate training in Australia. The ADA requests that the Board outline how the proposed changes will impact, if at all, on dentists wishing to undertake all or part of their postgraduate training in Australia.

The ADA is happy to expand on any or all of the comments provided. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Eithne Irving, Deputy CEO and General Manager, Policy on [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely,



Dr Hugo Sachs
President