

11 October 2018



Dr John Lockwood, Chair
Dental Board of Australia
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Dear Dr Lockwood

Public consultation on the proposal to close the Public Sector Dental Workforce Scheme

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback for the public consultation on the proposal to close the Public Sector Dental Workforce Scheme (PSDWS).

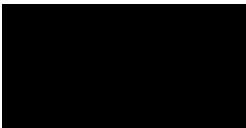
The Dental Hygienists Association of Australia Ltd. (DHAA) is the peak professional body representing dental hygienists, oral health therapists and oral health students throughout Australia.

The DHAA supports option 2, to close the PSDWS pathway and retire the guideline.

It is clear that demand for the PSDWS has declined over time, with no new registrants in 2017. While we are not aware of any specific issues that have arisen from the PSDWS, it is clear that it is difficult to monitor the level of supervision provided. We would support an extended transition timeline of at least 2 years for the current registrants to move through the pathway and complete the ADC's final examination; this is to allow for any possible restrictions in examination availability and additional attempts required.

We again thank you for opportunity to provide this feedback, and are pleased to be contacted for any clarifications or ongoing discussions.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Melanie Hayes
Chief Executive Officer
Dental Hygienists Association of Australia

