*[Your practice’s Guide to Information must be consistent with the current Model Publication Scheme (MPS). Briefly, it* ***must****:*

* *allow the public to see what information is available in relation to each class described in the MPS*
* *the information must be made available in a way that is consistent with the MPS principles:*
* ***Availability and formats:*** *information should, wherever possible, be made available on the authority’s website. There must be an alternative arrangement for people who cannot or do not want to access the information online or by visiting the authority.*
* ***Exempt information:*** *authorities do not have to publish information that would be exempt under Scottish FOI law.*
* ***Copyright and re-use:*** *any copyright and restrictions on re-use of published information must be explained.*
* ***Charges:*** *There can be no charge to view published information except where there is a statutory fee. Any charges for providing information e.g. copies, must be published and must be set at the level it costs the authority to provide it. Authorities can charge a market value for publications sold e.g. through a retail outlet.*
* ***Advice and assistance:*** *authorities must give contact details for help to find and request information.*
* ***Duration:*** *once published, information should generally be available for the current and previous two years.*

*There is no requirement to use this template and the format, organisation and content of it can be altered, within the terms of the MPS, to fit the needs of your practice.*

*To use this template you need to amend the information that you refer to in your Guide to Information and you* ***must*** *ensure that you have all of this information and are able to make it available to the public in the way you have stated below.*

*You are strongly advised to read the Information Commissioner’s Model Publication Scheme Guide for Scottish Public Authorities (*[*www.itspublicknowledge.info/ScottishPublicAuthorities/PublicationSchemes/GuidesToInformation.aspx*](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/ScottishPublicAuthorities/PublicationSchemes/GuidesToInformation.aspx)*) before you proceed.]*

# *[Name of the Dental Practice]*

# Guide to Information available through the Model Publication Scheme

The Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 requires Scottish public authorities to produce and maintain a publication scheme. Authorities are under a legal obligation to:

* publish the classes of information that they make routinely available
* tell the public how to access the information they publish and whether information is available free of charge or on payment.

*[Name of the dental practice]* has adopted the Model Publication Schemeproduced by the Scottish Information Commissioner.

*[Choose one of the following two options:*

*Option 1*

*You can see this scheme on our website at [insert website link] or by contacting us (see Contact Us section below).*

*or*

*Option 2*

*You can see this scheme on the Commissioner’s website at* [*www.itspublicknowledge.info/ScottishPublicAuthorities/PublicationSchemes/TheModelPublicationScheme.aspx*](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/ScottishPublicAuthorities/PublicationSchemes/TheModelPublicationScheme.aspx) *or by contacting us (see Contact Us section below).]*

The purpose of this Guide to Information is to:

* allow you to see what information is available (and what is not available) in relation to each class of information
* state what charges may be applied for supplying information
* explain how you can find the information easily
* provide contact details for enquiries and to get help with accessing the information
* explain how to request information we hold that has not been published

## **Availability and formats**

The information we publish through the Model Publication Scheme is, wherever possible, available on our website *[insert link if applicable]*. We offer alternative arrangements for people who do not want to, or cannot, access the information online or by inspection at the practice. For example, we can usually arrange to send information to you in paper copy, although there may be a charge for this (see Charges section below). Information can be requested from us by telephone or in writing using the contact details provided (see Contact Us section below).

When writing to us to request information, please include your name and address and full details of the information or documents you would like to receive. Please also include a telephone number so we can call you to clarify any details, if necessary.

Advice on requesting information not detailed in this Guide to Information can be found in Appendix I ‘How to access information that is not available under this publication scheme’.

## **Exempt information**

We will publish the information we hold that falls within the classes of information below. If a document contains information that is exempt under The Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA), we may remove or redact the information before publication but we will explain why. Examples of exempt information include requests for information that is contained in patient dental records (although you do have the right to request your own dental records under the Data Protection Act 2018), requests for information relating to private income of practice partners or practice staff and requests for financial information that would likely prejudice substantially the commercial interests of any person.

## **Copyright and re-use**

*[Choose one of the following three options:*

*Option 1:*

*Insert notice of adoption of the Open Government Licence (sample text below). The Open Government Licence sets out clear terms and conditions for both copyright and re-use and is the option recommended by the Information Commissioner.*

*[Name of the practice] has adopted the Open Government Licence for public sector information* [*http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/*](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/)*. This sets out what you can and cannot do with our published information where we are the copyright holder.*

*Where [name of the practice] does not hold the copyright in information we publish, we will make this clear in this guide.*

*Option 2:*

*Insert this example copyright statement:*

*Where [name of the practice] holds the copyright in its published information, the information may be copied or reproduced without formal permission, provided it is copied or reproduced accurately, is not used in a misleading context and provided that the source of the material is identified.*

*Providing access to information does not mean that copyright has been waived, nor does it give the recipient the right to re-use information for commercial purposes. If you intend to re-use information obtained from the Scheme, and you are unsure whether you have the right to do so, please make a request to [name of the practice] using the contact details provided below. Your request will be considered under the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015 which may provide the right to impose a charge. In the event that a charge is payable, you will be advised what this is and how it is calculated. If you require more information on the re-use of information, go to* [*http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2015/1415/contents/made*](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2015/1415/contents/made)*.*

*The copyright for some of the information referred to in this guide is not held by [insert name of the practice]. This should be apparent from the documents. It is the responsibility of the person accessing the information to locate and seek the permission of the copyright holder before reproducing the material or in any other way breaching the rights of the copyright holder.*

*or*

*Option 3:*

*Insert practice’s own copyright and re-use statement here (this must be consistent with the fair dealing provisions of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 and the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015).]*

## **Charges**

Unless otherwise stated in the Classes of Information section below, all information contained within our Guide to Information is available from us free of charge, where it can be downloaded from our website, sent to you electronically by email, or accessed at the practice premises.

We reserve the right to impose charges for providing information in paper copy or on a digital storage device. Charges will reflect the actual costs to the practice, of reproduction and postage, as set out below. In the event that a charge is to be levied, you will be advised of the charge and how it has been calculated. Information will not be provided to you until payment has been received.

### Reproduction costs:

Where charges are applied, photocopied information will be charged at a standard rate of 10p *[or insert cost]* per A4 paper (black and white copy) and 30p *[or insert cost]* per A4 paper (colour copy).

Computer discs will be charged at the rate of £1 *[or insert cost]* per CD-Rom. USB flash drives will be charged at the rate of £5 *[or insert cost].*

### Postage costs:

We will pass on postage charges to the requester at the cost to the practice of sending the information by first class post.

Contact Us

You can contact us for assistance with any aspect of this publication scheme:

*[Insert name of the practice, postal address, email address and telephone number]*

We will also be pleased to advise you how to ask for information that we do not publish (also see Appendix I), or how to complain if you are dissatisfied with any aspect of this publication scheme.

About *[name of the practice]*

*[Name of the practice]* is owned and operated by *[owner(s)]* and the premises are owned by *[owner or factor].* The dentists working at the premises are *[names].* The practice is also staffed by *[insert list of staff e.g. practice manager, number of receptionists, hygienists, dental nurses etc. These staff members do not need to be named individually].*

We operate as a general dental practice *[or as a specialist practice]* providing dental treatment as independent contractors under NHS terms of service *[and private treatment, if applicable]* for adults and children. We offer the following services: *[list services]*. We also provide a referral service for other treatments if required.

We claim fees for NHS patients according to the current system (Statement of Dental Remuneration, SDR) set by the government. We are paid monthly fees for the number of patients we have registered and claim fees for individual items of treatment. There are also some allowances available for such things as continuing professional development, quality improvement activity, rent, rates and practice improvements based on the percentage of NHS care we provide. Out of this income, and income from private treatments, the practice pays the full cost of providing care, including the provision of the building, equipment, materials and staff.

Our standards are assured by NHS regulations relating to our participation in clinical governance, clinical audit and peer review, and by the General Dental Council (GDC) Standards for the Dental Team and requirements for continuing professional development. Our care and treatment are also inspected by the Dental Reference Service of the Scottish Dental Practice Board and our practice is inspected every three years by *[name]* Health Board.

## **The Classes of Information that we publish**

We publish information that we hold within the classes of information listed below, in accordance with the Model Publication Scheme *[year]*. Once information is published under a class we will continue to make it available for the current and previous two financial years.

Where information has been updated or superseded, only the current version will be available. If you would like to see previous versions, you may make a request to us for that information.

*[The dental practice is required to publish all of the information it holds which falls within the classes of the current Model Publication Scheme. If the practice does not hold information within a class, please indicate this below the class description. The class of information should still be included, even if there is no information held for it.*

*Where links are provided to web pages, please ensure links point to specific documents, relevant pages or sections of the website.]*

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| CLASS 1: ABOUT [NAME OF THE PRACTICE]  |
| **Class description:**Information about *[name of the practice]*, who we are, where to find us, how to contact us, how we are managed and our external relations |

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| **The information we publish under this class** | **How to access it** |
| 1. Name, address, contact details | Refer to ‘Contact Us’ section above, practice website *[insert link for page]* and Patient Information Leaflet |
| 2. Practice opening hours | Refer to practice website *[insert link for page]* and Patient Information Leaflet |
| 3. Organisational structure: *[e.g. practice owner(s), partner(s), owner of premises]* | Refer to ‘About *[name of the practice]* ‘ section above and at practice |
| 4. Legal/contractual framework for the practice: *[e.g. NHS terms of service]* | Refer to ‘About *[name of the practice]* ‘ section above, [The National Health Service (General Dental Services)(Scotland) Regulations 2010](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2010/208/contents/made) (as amended)  |
| 5. Standards  | Refer to ‘About *[name of the practice]* ‘ section above, [GDC standards](https://www.gdc-uk.org/professionals/standards) displayed at practice, NHS Quality Improvement Scotland (2006) [Dental Services Standards](https://www2.gov.scot/resource/doc/160610/0043670.pdf)  |
| 6. Reports to regulators and internal and external audits: *[e.g. Continuing Professional Development (CPD) records, quality improvement activity records, practice inspection completion letter etc]*  | *[insert links for documents]* orat practice |
| 7. Strategic planning processes: *[e.g. continuity planning, risk management etc]* | *[insert links for documents]* orpolicies available at practice |
| 8. Contact details for customer care and complaints | Refer to 1. in this class *[or* *named individual]* |
| 9. Model Publication Scheme and Guide to Information | Refer to practice website *[insert link for page],* at practice and available on [theScottish Information Commissioner’s website](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/ScottishPublicAuthorities/PublicationSchemes/TheModelPublicationScheme.aspx)  |
| 10. Charging schedule for published information | Refer to ‘Charges’ section above |
| 11. Charging schedule for environmental information not available through this publication scheme | Refer to Appendix I below |
| 12. Advice about how to request information | Refer to ‘Availability and formats’ section above |

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| CLASS 2: HOW WE DELIVER OUR FUNCTIONS AND SERVICES |
| **Class description:**Information about our work, our strategy and policies for delivering functions and services and information for our patients. |

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| **The information we publish under this class** | **How to access it** |
| 1. Description of practice functions and services, including statutory basis for them | Refer to ‘About *[name of practice]* ‘section above, on practice website *[insert link for page]*, Patient Information Leaflet and at practice |
| 2. Strategies, policies and internal staff procedure for performing statutory functions: *[e.g. record keeping, infection control policy etc]*   | *[insert links for documents]* orat practice |
| 3. How to report a concern to the practice  | Refer to practice complaints procedure on practice website *[insert link for page]* and at practice |
| 4. Information for patients, including how to access services | Refer to ‘Contact Us’ section above, practice website *[insert link for page]* and Patient Information Leaflet |
| 5. Treatment fees and charges: *[e.g. cost of NHS treatment set by government, entitlement to exemption and remission from NHS dental charges, private charges etc]* | Refer to [Practitioner Services Division](https://nhsnss.org/services/practitioner/dental/) website, [current SDR](http://www.scottishdental.org/professionals/statement-of-dental-remuneration/), practice website *[insert link for page]* and at practice |

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| CLASS 3: HOW WE TAKE DECISIONS AND WHAT WE HAVE DECIDED |
| **Class description:**Information about the decisions we take, how we make decisions and how we involve others |

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| **The information we publish under this class** | **How to access it** |
| 1. Decisions taken by the practice: *[e.g. agendas, reports, papers, and minutes of meetings (that do not contain confidential patient information) etc]* | *[insert links for documents]* orat practice  |
| 2. Decisions are informed by referring to national guidance and current Scottish Government guidelines *[amend websites for guidance used, as appropriate]* | [General Dental Council](https://www.gdc-uk.org/professionals/standards/gdc-guidance) (GDC), [Scottish Dental Clinical Effectiveness Programme](http://www.sdcep.org.uk/) (SDCEP), [Scottish Intercollegiate Guideline Network](http://www.sign.ac.uk/) (SIGN) and [British Dental Association](https://bda.org) (BDA) websites |
| 3. Patient consultation and feedback: *[e.g. patient experience surveys and feedback]* | *[Practice webpage link and/or at practice, if applicable]* |

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| CLASS 4: WHAT WE SPEND AND HOW WE SPEND IT |
| **Class description:**Information about our strategy for, and management of, financial resources (in sufficient detail to explain how we plan to spend public money and what has actually been spent).  |

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| **The information we publish under this class** | **How to access it** |
| 1. Details of NHS funding | Refer to ‘About *[name of practice]* ‘ section above |
| 2. Purchase of equipment and supplies: *[e.g. names of suppliers, laboratory services etc]* | At practice |

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| CLASS 5: HOW WE MANAGE OUR HUMAN, PHYSICAL AND INFORMATION RESOURCES |
| **Class description:**Information about how we manage the human, physical and information resources of *[name of the practice]* |

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| **The information we publish under this class** | **How to access it** |
| 1. Human resources policies, procedures and guidelines: *[e.g. recruitment, performance management, pensions, discipline, grievance, staff development etc]*  | *[insert links for documents]* orpolicies available at practice  |
| 2. Management of the practice premises: *[e.g. owner of premises or factor, planning permission]*  | Refer to ‘About *[name of the practice]* ‘ section above, at practice |
| 3. Premises maintenance arrangements: *[e.g. premise maintenance contracts]* | *[insert links for documents]* or at practice |
| 4. Equipment maintenance arrangements: *[e.g. equipment service contracts]*  | *[insert links for documents]* or at practice |
| 5. Records management policy: *[e.g. Data Protection, Confidentiality and Information Security Policy]*  | *[insert links for documents]* or at practice |

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| CLASS 6: HOW WE PROCURE GOODS AND SERVICES FROM EXTERNAL PROVIDERS |
| **Class description:**Information about how we procure goods and services, and our contracts with external providers |

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| **The information we publish under this class** | **How to access it** |
| 1. List of suppliers: *[e.g. utilities, dental supplies, laboratory work etc]*  | *[insert links for documents]* or at practice |
| 2. Procurement policies and procedures | *[insert links for documents]* or at practice |

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| CLASS 7: HOW WE ARE PERFORMING |
| **Class description:**Information about how we perform as an organisation, and how well we deliver our functions and services |

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| **The information we publish under this class** | **How to access it** |
| 1. External reports, reports for NHS boards, annual reports, and performance statements: *[e.g. Health Board practice inspection completion letter]*  | *[insert links for documents]* or at practice |
| 2. Patient feedback: *[e.g. patient experience surveys and other feedback]*  | *[Practice webpage link and/or at practice, if applicable]* |

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| CLASS 8: OUR COMMERCIAL PUBLICATIONS |
| **Class description:** Information packaged and made available for sale on a commercial basis and sold at market value through a retail outlet e.g. bookshop, museum or research journal.  |

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| **The information we publish under this class** | **How to access it** |
| No information held under this class | Not applicable |

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| CLASS 9: OUR OPEN DATA |
| **Class description:** Open data made available by *[name of the practice]* as described by the Scottish Government’s [Open Data Resource Pack](http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2015/08/4093/downloads#res-1) and available under an open licence.<http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2015/08/4093/downloads#res-1> |

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| **The information we publish under this class** | **How to access it** |
| No information held under this class | Not applicable |

## Appendix I

**How to access information that is not available under this publication scheme**

*[You may not have published (i.e. have readily available) all information that could be requested. This information would then come under the terms of a Freedom of Information, Environmental Information or Subject Access (personal data) request. The following sections are required to describe how these requests can be made and the practice’s charging policy for them. These are distinct from the charges stated above for available information described in your publication scheme classes of information].*

If the information you are seeking is not available under this Guide to Information, then you may wish to request it from us. The [Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2002/13/contents) (FOISA) provides you with a right of access to the information we hold, subject to certain exemptions. The [Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2004/520/contents/made) (EIRs) separately provide a right of access to the environmental information we hold, while the [Data Protection Act 2018](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2018/12/contents/enacted) (DPA) provides a right of access to any personal information about you that we hold. Again, these rights are subject to certain exceptions or exemptions.

Should you wish to request a copy of any information that we hold that is not available under this publication scheme, please write to *[insert practice contact details].*

### Charges for information which is not available under the scheme

Fees for information that is not available under this scheme are outlined in [The Freedom of Information (Fees for Required Disclosure) (Scotland) Regulations 2004.](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2004/467/contents/made) If you submit a request to us for information which is not available under the current Model Publication Scheme the charges will be based on the following calculations:

**General information requests**

*[These charges are set within The Freedom of Information (Fees for Required Disclosure) (Scotland) Regulations 2004]*

* There will be no charge for information requests which cost us £100 or less to process.
* Where information costs between £100 and £600 to provide you may be asked to pay 10% of the cost. That is, if you were to ask for information that cost us £600 to provide, you would be asked to pay £50, calculated on the basis of a waiver for the first £100 and 10% of the remaining £500.
* We are not obliged to respond to requests which will cost us over £600 to process.
* In calculating any fee, staff time will be calculated at actual cost per staff member hourly salary rate to a maximum of £15 per person per hour.
* We do not charge for the time to determine whether we hold the information requested, nor for the time it takes to decide whether the information can be released. Charges may be made for locating, retrieving and providing information to you.
* In the event that we decide to impose a charge we will issue you with notification of the charge (a fees notice) and how it has been calculated. You will have three months from the date of issue of the fees notice in which to decide whether to pay the charge. The information will be provided to you on payment of the charge. If you decide not to proceed with the request there will be no charge to you.

**Charges for environmental information**

*[This could include, for example, details of waste disposal. The charging scheme below can be modified: unlike a FOISA request for general information, there is no upper or lower cost limit for an EIR request and the practice can recover, in full, the cost of supplying the information]*

* We will ask you to pay the full cost of providing the information, with no waiver for any portion of the cost*.* *[there is no upper cost limit, meaning that a request cannot be refused on cost grounds]*
* Charges are calculated on the basis of the actual cost to the practice of providing the information. Photocopying is charged at 10p per A4 sheet for black and white copying and 30p per A4 sheet for colour copying. Postage is charged at actual rate for first class mail. Staff time is calculated at actual cost per staff member hourly salary rate to a maximum of £15 per person per hour.
* We do not charge for the time to determine whether we hold the information requested, nor for the time it takes to decide whether the information can be released.
* In the event of a request we will issue you with notification of the charge and how it has been calculated. The information will be provided to you on payment of the charge. If you decide not to proceed with the request there will be no charge to you.

### Requests for your own personal data

While you cannot request personal data under the FOISA you are entitled to request your own personal data from us under the Data Protection Act 2018. There is no charge for routine Subject Access Requests but there may be a charge to cover administrative costs for repeat requests and for unfounded or excessive requests.

Guide to Information last updated: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date of next review: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_