

Your LINK for improving health and social care

www.thekentlink.co.uk



Issues raised by Kent LINK Participants

- ▶ Lack of NHS Dentists in:
 - Ashford
 - Crowborough
 - Dartford
 - Folkestone
 - Maidstone
 - Sevenoaks
 - Thanet
 - Tonbridge
 - Tunbridge Wells

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- ▶ No six month check ups – only emergency work
- ▶ NHS Dentists not taking on children
- ▶ Unable to get list of NHS Dentists
- ▶ Poor dental care can make people seriously ill
- ▶ High price of dental care deterring people from going to the dentist

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What's being done to address problem in West Kent?

- ▶ Phase 1 – £1.7m to recruit the equivalent of 6 new dentists and more orthodontic activity in:
 - Aylesford
 - Dartford
 - Gravesend
 - Longfield
 - Maidstone
 - Sevenoaks
 - Tonbridge
 - Tunbridge Wells
- ▶ In place by September 2009 or January 2010

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- ▶ Phase 2 – £900,000 to recruit the equivalent of approx a further six new dentists in:
 - Maidstone
 - Swanley
 - Tunbridge Wells

- ▶ In place by September 2009 or January 2010

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How to get help

To find an NHS Dentist

- ▶ Customer Services NHS West Kent: 0800 0850 850

Advice re help with the cost of dental care

- ▶ Benefits Enquiry Line on 0800 882 200