**Dental Commissioning Statistics – December 2015**

**1. Summary**

* As at 31st December 2015, there are 88,824,707 UDAs commissioned to be provided between 1st January 2016 and 31st December 2016.
* This is a decrease of 128,000 compared to the previous quarter, equivalent to a -0.1% change.
* It is 41,000 UDAs, or 0.05%, higher than the number of UDAs commissioned by December 2014 to be provided between 1st January 2015 and 31st December 2015.
* The largest change from the previous quarter at Local Office level was a decrease of 131,000, or 1.7%, in Lancashire and Greater Manchester.
* The largest change from the previous year at Local Office level was an increase of 370,000, or 5.4% in Central Midlands.
* The number of UDAs commissioned in contracts which are not yet delivering services remains low, at 25,000, all in Wessex.

**2. Changes at regional level**

This section will report on the quarterly and annual changes in the numbers of UDAs commissioned at Commissioning Region and Local Office level, as these are the two geographic levels primarily used in NHS England.

At a national level (see Table 1 below), the total UDAs commissioned by December 2015 is lower (by 128,000) than in September 2015 (0.1% decrease).

Compared to the previous quarter, the North region showed the greatest decrease in UDAs commissioned, with 210,000 fewer UDAs commissioned in December 2015 compared to September 2015 (0.7% decrease). Midlands and East region had the highest increase (0.4%) in UDAs commissioned compared to the previous quarter, with 115,000 more UDAs commissioned in December 2015 compared to September 2015.

*Table 1: Units of Dental Activity Commissioned by* ***Quarterly*** *Change counts and Percentage Change*

England, commissioning regions

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Total UDAs** | **QuarterlyChange** | **Percentage Change** |
|  | **September 2015** | **December 2015** |
| **England**  | **88,953,141**  | **88,824,707**  | **-128,434**  | **-0.1%** |
| North | 28,070,270  | 27,861,965  | -208,305  | -0.7% |
| Midlands and East | 26,759,269  | 26,874,569  | 115,300  | 0.4% |
| London | 12,649,666  | 12,573,840  | -75,826  | -0.6% |
| South | 21,473,936  | 21,514,333  | 40,397  | 0.2% |

Compared to the previous year, at a national level, the total UDAs commissioned by December 2015 (to be delivered by December 2016) is higher (by 41,000) than in December 2014, to be delivered by December 2015 (0.05% increase).

At commissioning region level, the largest annual decrease was in the South region with 200,000 fewer UDAs commissioned (-0.9%) compared to December 2014 (see Table 2 below). Midlands and East region was the only commissioning region that saw an increase over the period (rising by 1.6%) in UDAs commissioned compared to the previous year.

*Table 2: Units of Dental Activity Commissioned by* ***Annual*** *Change counts and Percentage*

England, commissioning regions

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Total UDAs** | **AnnualChange** | **Percentage Change** |
|  | **December 2014** | **December 2015** |
| **England**  | **88,783,394**  | **88,824,707**  | **41,313**  | **0.0%** |
| North | 28,001,557  | 27,861,965  | -139,592  | -0.5% |
| Midlands and East | 26,457,480  | 26,874,569  | 417,089  | 1.6% |
| London | 12,610,248  | 12,573,840  | -36,408  | -0.3% |
| South | 21,714,109  | 21,514,333  | -199,776  | -0.9% |

At Local Office level, the largest annual decrease was in the South East with 100,000 fewer UDAs commissioned (-1.5%) compared to December 2014, see Table 3 below. Central Midlands had the highest increase (5.4%) in UDAs commissioned compared to the previous year, 370,000 more.

Compared to the previous quarter, Lancashire and Greater Manchester showed the greatest decrease in UDAs commissioned compared to the previous quarter, with 131,000 fewer UDAs commissioned in December 2015 compared to September 2015 (1.7% decrease). West Midlands had the highest increase (1.2%) in UDAs commissioned compared to the previous quarter, with 83,000 more UDAs commissioned.

Between September 2015 and December 2015, out of the 13 Regional Teams, five showed increases in commissioned UDAs, seven showed decreases compared to the previous quarter, and one showed no change.

*Table 3: Units of Dental Activity Commissioned, Quarterly and Annual Changes*

England, Local Offices

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Total UDAs** | **Annual change** | **Quarterly change** |
|  | **Counts** | **% Change** | **Counts** | **% Change** |
| **ENGLAND** | **88,824,707**  | **41,313**  | 0.0% | **-128,434**  | -0.1% |
|  Wessex  | 4,315,703  | 2,378  | 0.1% | 24,428  | 0.6% |
|  London  | 12,573,840  | -36,408  | -0.3% | -75,826  | -0.6% |
|  Yorkshire and the Humber  | 9,571,462  | -72,321  | -0.7% | 0  | 0.0% |
|  Lancashire and Greater Manchester  | 7,385,734  | -26,301  | -0.4% | -130,862  | -1.7% |
|  Cumbria and North East  | 6,032,016  | -52,292  | -0.9% | -76,271  | -1.2% |
|  Cheshire and Merseyside  | 4,872,753  | 11,322  | 0.2% | -1,172  | 0.0% |
|  North Midlands  | 5,900,036  | -18,590  | -0.3% | -25,941  | -0.4% |
|  West Midlands  | 6,809,071  | 20,014  | 0.3% | 82,831  | 1.2% |
|  Central Midlands  | 7,227,998  | 369,708  | 5.4% | 76,918  | 1.1% |
|  East  | 6,937,464  | 45,957  | 0.7% | -18,508  | -0.3% |
|  South West  | 5,644,493  | -44,863  | -0.8% | -16,019  | -0.3% |
|  South East  | 6,528,761  | -100,805  | -1.5% | 27,328  | 0.4% |
|  South Central  | 5,025,376  | -56,486  | -1.1% | 4,660  | 0.1% |

**3. Quarterly changes**

The data from December 2015 shows that there has been a decrease in the amount of UDAs commissioned (0.1%) compared to the previous quarter. In the quarter before that, September 2015, there was a 0.3% decrease.

These changes differ from the historical trend. As the chart below shows, there have been seasonal variations affecting the quarter to quarter changes. Historically, large dips have been seen in the September quarter (for precise figures see Annex 1). This is most likely due to non-recurrent commissioning contracts coming to an end (end of the financial year) and new commissioning for the year not yet decided upon.

*Figure 1: Percentage change of Units of Dental Activity Commissioned quarter on quarter.*

England, December 2007 to December 2015.



**4. Annual changes**

The annual change for total UDAs commissioned has now been positive for three quarters, having previously been negative since December 2013. The total UDAs in December 2015 is 40,000 higher than in December 2014 (0.05% increase), the up and running services for the same time period have also increased by 0.03% (26,000).

For each quarter between December 2008 and September 2010, the total number of UDAs commissioned was at least 4.0% higher than at the same time 12 months earlier. The percentage increase declined to around 1.0% or below from March 2011 onwards. March 2014 marked the most negative percentage change across the time period of -1.3%. The most recent quarter (December 2015) registered a 0.05% increase in units of dental activity commissioned, see Figure 2 below.

*Figure 2: Percentage change of Units of Dental Activity Commissioned year on year.*

England, March 2010 to December 2015.

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**5. ‘Up and running’ UDAs**

Over time, the gap between the total number of UDAs commissioned and the ‘up and running’ UDAs has narrowed. The most recent quarter shows the number of UDAs commissioned in contracts which are not yet delivering services is 25,200 (0.03% of all UDAs commissioned), all in Wessex, where they are commissioning new services. This is an increase from 12,900 (these were all in London, in services that are now delivering), the figure reported last quarter, and an increase of 15,000 from the previous year.

Since September 2013, UDAs commissioned in contracts which are not yet delivering services have represented 1.0% or less of the total UDAs commissioned. The data from September 2014 showed the smallest proportion seen over time of UDAs not yet delivering services (0.003%).

*Figure 3: Time Series of Units of Dental Activity Commissioned*

England, December 2007 to December 2015.



Annex 1

*Table 4: Units of Dental Activity (UDAs) Commissioned*

England, December 2008 to December 2015

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Reporting period**  | **Annual services commissioned + up and running** | **Contracts not yet delivering services**  | **Total annual services commissioned\***  |
| as of December 2008 |  81,072,917  |  1,926,811  |  82,999,728  |
| as of March 2009 |  81,989,867  |  1,340,108  |  83,329,975  |
| as of June 2009 |  82,224,496  |  2,240,289  |  84,464,785  |
| as of September 2009 |  84,876,778  |  2,044,575  |  86,921,353  |
| as of December 2009 |  86,531,325  |  1,779,416  |  88,310,741  |
| as of March 2010 |  86,713,183  |  1,691,265  |  88,404,448  |
| as of June 2010 |  86,410,349  |  1,471,597  |  87,881,946  |
| as of September 2010 |  87,797,178  |  1,279,192  |  89,076,370  |
| as of December 2010 |  88,442,502  |  1,043,909  |  89,486,411  |
| as of March 2011 |  88,373,545  |  693,691  |  89,067,236  |
| as of June 2011 |  88,182,055  |  833,609  |  89,015,664  |
| as of September 2011 |  88,931,847  |  297,480  |  89,229,327  |
| as of December 2011 |  89,212,421  |  218,773  |  89,431,194  |
| as of March 2012 |  89,537,613  |  251,330  |  89,788,943  |
| as of June 2012 |  88,895,085  |  207,517  |  89,102,602  |
| as of September 2012 |  89,171,087  |  165,942  |  89,337,029  |
| as of December 2012 |  89,440,435  |  257,890  |  89,698,325  |
| as of March 2013 |  90,144,430  |  202,302  |  90,346,732  |
| as of June 2013 |  89,118,011  |  16,000  |  89,134,011  |
| as of September 2013 |  89,140,430  |  77,692  |  89,218,122  |
| as of December 2013 |  89,382,784  |  96,211  |  89,478,995  |
| as of March 2014 |  89,122,113  |  70,801  |  89,192,914  |
| as of June 2014 |  88,935,606  |  2,247  |  88,937,853  |
| as of September 2014 |  88,740,473  |  132,702  |  88,873,175  |
| as of December 2014 |  88,773,154  |  10,240  |  88,783,394  |
| as of March 2015 |  88,618,075  |  96,115  |  88,714,190  |
| as of June 2015 |  89,218,798  |  12,900  |  89,231,698  |
| as of September 2015 |  88,940,241  |  12,900  |  88,953,141  |
| as of December 2015 |  88,799,469  |  25,238  |  88,824,707  |

\*Commissioned UDAs cover contracted UDAs in the next 12 months in GDS and PDS contracts and in VDP arrangements. *This excludes salaried services where there are no contracted UDAs*.