



ANNUAL REPORT 2024





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EXECUTIVE REPORTS

IRISH DENTAL ASSOCIATION ORGANOGRAM

Management Committee

President	Dr Rory Boyd
Vice President	Dr Eamon Croke
President Elect	Dr William Rymer
Honorary Treasurer	Dr William Rymer
Honorary Treasurer Elect	Dr Tiernan O'Brien
HSE Group Rep	Dr Maura Cuffe
GP Group Rep	Dr Mairead O'Connor
Non-Executive Director	Mr Ronan King
Non-Executive Director	Ms Geraldine Kelly

Subcommittees

Annual Conference
Accreditation
International Affairs
CPD
JIDA
Quality and Patient Safety
Audit and Risk
Finance
Communications and Advocacy Working Group
Members Services Working Group

Head Office

Chief Executive Officer	Fintan Hourihan
Chief Operating Officer	Elaine Hughes
Director Communications and Advocacy	Roisín Farrelly
Events and CPD Manager	Aoife Kavanagh
Finance Manager	Irina Pochinkova
Accounts Assistant / Membership Admin	Cindy Flynn
Administrative Services Manager	
/ Journal Co-ordinator	Liz Dodd

COUNCIL

Honorary Officers

President	Dr Rory Boyd
Vice President	Dr Eamon Croke
President Elect	Dr William Rymer
Honorary Treasurer	Dr William Rymer
Honorary Treasurer Elect	Dr Tiernan O'Brien

Others

HSE Group Management Committee Nominee	Dr Maura Cuffe
GP Group Management Committee Nominee	Dr Mairead O'Connor
JIDA Representative	Dr Adedeji Obikoya
Quality & Patient Safety Committee Representative	Dr Gerald O'Connor
CPD Committee Representative	<i>Vacant</i>

Representative Members

South Eastern Regional Committee Representative	Dr Joesph Mahon
North Eastern Regional Committee Representative	<i>Vacant</i>
Eastern Regional Committee Representative	Dr Ambrish Roshan
Eastern Regional Committee Representative	Dr Aodh MacGrainne
Southern Regional Committee Representative	Dr Robert Philpott
Kerry Regional Committee Representative	<i>Vacant</i>
Mid Western Regional Committee Representative	Dr Robert Bowe
North Western Regional Committee Representative	Dr Peter Doyle
Western Regional Committee Representative	<i>Vacant</i>
HSE Dental Surgeons Group Rep	Dr Maura Cuffe
GP Group Rep 1	Dr Sarah Edgar
GP Group Rep 2	Dr Rosemarie Maguire
International Affairs Committee Representative	Dr Robin Foyle

All listings above as of December 31st 2024.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It was a huge honour to receive the chain of office from outgoing President, Dr Eamon Croke. I can't think of someone who has given more time, energy and guidance to the Association throughout the years in his various roles. It was only fitting to have Dr Croke leading the Association through our centenary year and I would like to wish him every success in his endeavours during his retirement.

As the youngest President of the Association to date, it was a huge support to me to have someone of Dr Croke's experience as Vice President for support and guidance.

Dr Rory Boyd

"Connections"

The past year has had many highlights, none more than our annual conference themed as "*Connections*". As a member, it was of great personal pride to welcome the American Academy of Fixed Prosthodontics to Killarney, Co. Kerry to collaborate at our annual conference. As the Great Southern Hotel has had previous notable American guests including Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, it could not have been a more fitting venue to showcase the Irish American relationship in the dental profession. I would like to thank Elaine Hughes, Aoife Kavanagh, and the Conference Committee for their extensive work. They can take great pride in the quality and standard of the event.

The Irish American relationship was further strengthened by receiving an invitation to attend the American Dental Association Conference (*Smilecon*) in New Orleans. It is through these collaborations internationally that the Association can continue to grow and learn from other associations. These "*Connections*" ensure the Irish dental profession remains part of the global dental network.



I would like to thank all the endeavours and commitments of our International Affairs Committee.

The annual *IDA Colgate Caring Dentist Awards* was yet again another wonderful evening. There is no other national awards nominated by patients. The caring aspect of our profession is often not recognised and celebrated. This year the inaugural Dr Barry Harrington award for *Young Caring Dentist of the Year* was presented. Dr Harrington's enthusiasm for these awards knew no bounds and it was fitting to present this award following his passing this year.

The vitality of our regional branches is key to a thriving association. It is only through this local connection with members that we can understand the issues that are affecting the dental profession across the country. I would like to thank all members of regional branch committees for their persistent dedication. The dental profession is a heterogeneous group with wide variation in issues and concerns. I would strongly encourage members to attend regional branch events to ensure the Association understands and represents all its members.

"For the strength of the Pack is the Wolf, and the strength of the Wolf is the Pack." Rudyard Kipling

Committees

The work of the committees has continued to be the driving force of our Association. The Management Committee continued to evolve the way it carries out business, building on the changes made in previous years. I would like to thank all the committee members, officers, directors and Executive Team members for their extraordinary commitment in pursuit of improvement.

The 2025 AGM will see Mr Ronan King complete his second term as an independent non-executive director. Ronan was appointed along with Ms Geraldine Kelly as our first ever non-executive directors in 2020. Both Ronan and Geraldine have played an invaluable role in helping us modernise and ensure our governance and strategic focus is appropriate and in keeping with the needs of a modern representative body. Ronan played a vital role in enhancing our advocacy work in recent years and was also a great help in our four years of discussions with the Revenue Commissioners which ultimately produced the resolution to an existential challenge for the profession and which prevented the imposition of VAT in practices where self-employed dental associates are engaged. On behalf of all the directors and indeed our wider membership, I wish to thank Ronan and Dr Eamon Croke as they depart from the Management Committee.

I would further like to thank all members of all our national committees and Council for their endless hard work. This year has seen some significant changes in how Council will have a greater impact on providing advice and guidance to Management Committee and I am looking forward to seeing the impact of that improvement in the future.

The political landscape of 2024 was dominated by the general election; however, the implementation of Smile agus Sláinte certainly dominated discussion in the offices of IDA House. A delegation attended a meeting in July with representatives from the Department of Health and the Health Service Executive to discuss the National Oral Health Policy Implementation Plan 2025-2027. This meeting was collaborative and constructive in nature. However, due to the general election, further constructive consultation was put on hold until the formation of a new government. The upcoming meeting with the new Health Minister, Minister Carroll MacNeill, will provide

a further opportunity for the Association to have a positive effect on shaping the future provision of oral healthcare in Ireland.

The invitation to speak to the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Health provided a platform where representatives from both IDA and Dental Council could articulate the most pressing issues to the dental profession and our patients. The topics covered were wide ranging, including workforce planning, continual professional development, access to public dental services and legislative reform, amongst others.

Representing and advocating for the profession is a core role of IDA. This can often be a frustrating and a repetitive endeavour however, in 2024 there appears to be significant progress due to the efforts of the Association and its representatives. Although this is a positive sign, we must persist to ensure continued improvement to the profession and delivery of healthcare to our patients.

Membership

In 2024 we had growth in membership of the Association. I trust that endeavours will continue to improve this growth and in turn improve the strength of the Association. The Association is the representative body for dentistry in Ireland and provides the voice for the profession. To ensure that voice is loud and clear we must continue to grow in numbers.



Conclusion

It has been another very busy year with a huge amount of work completed. I would like to thank the executive team for their continued support, hard work and professionalism, in particular Fintan Hourihan, Roisin Farrelly, Aoife Kavanagh, Liz Dodd and Elaine Hughes.

The work of Honorary Treasurer often goes unseen. I would like to thank Dr Will Rymer for the huge amount of work carried out. I look forward to working with Dr Rymer during his term as president next year and am in no doubt that he will drive improvement throughout the Association during his term. Likewise, I wish every success to Dr Bridget Harrington Barry as she joins the Management Committee and thank her for volunteering to take on this important work at a time of profound change for the profession and the Association.

Finally, I thank every individual member for their support over the past year. I have been humbled by the level of support and guidance.

Many thanks.



CEO REPORT

Making a difference to the busy lives of dentists and their patients is the ultimate challenge for the Association. Last year must be seen as a year of positive progress.

It was a year in which oral health achieved a higher position on the agenda for political discussion and public discourse after years of persistent and effective advocacy on behalf of the dental profession by the Irish Dental Association.

Fintan Hourihan



As the voice and the representative of Irish dentistry, the Association faces many challenging and difficult obstacles to making a real difference.

To make a real difference, we need a strong organisation and that is why the capacity and governance of the Association is first and foremost essential to delivering real benefits for our members.

Capacity and Governance

The Association is managed on a day-to-day basis by its Management Committee comprising up to nine members led by the President and supplemented since 2020 by two independent non-executive directors. The impact of the independent non-executive directors can be seen through the continued modernisation of our arrangements at Board level.

Last year saw the Board itself meet where a laser focus on strategic objectives was ensured by an agenda which focuses on a scorecard of key performance indicators, and which ensures that the strategic objectives of the Association are always to the forefront. In the past year, the Management Committee relied on and was assisted in great measure by the work of some of its sub-committees including the Audit and Risk Committee, the Remuneration Committee

and the Finance Committee as well as the Task Force established to look at the publication of the Journal of the Irish Dental Association.

The Association operates on a multi-annual budgeting process and a regular review of expenditure and significant expenditure items, including expenditure on legal services, was a feature of the work of the Management Committee in 2024. The Management Committee also reviewed its own operation along with that of the Council in a series of surveys and reviews and the introduction of an enhanced Board induction process.

The Association is also mindful of its many compliance obligations and the introduction of a structured compliance report has been instrumental in ensuring

the Association keeps on top of its reporting requirements. I wish to extend particular thanks to Ms Liz Dodd for her tireless work in ensuring that we meet all our reporting requirements.

Membership Growth

Membership of the Association increased by over 3% in 2024 and this reflected 192 newly admitted members joining the Association in 2024. The challenge to continue to recruit new members and to retain existing members means that a particular focus has been placed on resources to supplement the existing efforts of the Association in the whole area of membership recruitment. This remains the single biggest challenge facing the Association as it does all professional representative bodies.

Services and Benefits

The many services and benefits offered by the Association explain the increasing numbers of dentists choosing to join the Irish Dental Association. The representative services we offer to individuals as well as the collective negotiations the Association undertakes meant that again 2024 was a particularly busy year. Huge work was expended on behalf of groups of members such as those holding contracts with the Department of Social Protection (DTBS) and the HSE (DTSS) as well as the many challenges facing dentists employed by state agencies including the HSE and our dental schools.

For the first time, the Association produced a CPD calendar, evidence of the increasing number of events hosted by the Irish Dental Association which remains the primary provider of CPD in Ireland. I wish to particularly thank my colleagues Elaine Hughes and Aoife Kavanagh who were instrumental in organising the biggest ever CPD programme for members.

In 2024, 54 different CPD events attracted over 1,800 attendees of whom over 900 were unique attendances. This comprised 26 national events, 13 webinars, 20 lectures and 20 hands-on workshops.

The Association enhanced its campaigning for the introduction of mandatory CPD and was instrumental in ensuring that this was supported by parties in the general election towards the end of the year.

Guiding the Profession

Another area where the Association discharges a particularly valuable service is in providing advice to dentists at all stages of their career. A particular highlight in 2024 was the dual programme in September which provided information on finance in dentistry and information for those starting dentistry in Ireland. This was supplemented by the publication of the third edition of the Starting Dentistry in Ireland booklet and particular thanks to Roisin Farrelly for her work on this invaluable project.

Advocacy

The tireless advocacy work of the Association was reflected in the unprecedented level of media coverage of dental matters. Our attendance for the third time during the 33rd Dail at the Oireachtas Health Committee was conclusive proof of the impact our efforts are making as regards awareness by the political system of the many demands and challenges facing those who wish to provide greater access to care for so many different groups in our society.

The Association continued its work in publishing solutions to the oral health reforms and in the last year we saw publication of both the Towards Sustainable National Oral Health Service and the Improving Access to Care for Children and Special Care Patients as evidence of our continuing commitment to providing solutions in discussions with the government.

The fact that the Programme for Government, which was published following the general election contained, for the first time, half a dozen specific commitments in oral health, was testimony to the effectiveness of our advocacy work. Of course, the real work starts now. Promoting the best in dental care at the Colgate Awards Night was also another remarkable success for the Association and we are proud to be associated with this unique event which recognises the great work of so many dentists as nominated by their patients.

Engaging with Stakeholders

Engaging with stakeholders has never been more important and in addition to our work engaging with politicians, we had significant interactions with the general and specialist media at regional and national level across print, broadcast, and digital platforms as well as with the general public. The Association has also continued to play a significant role in representing the profession in discussions with government departments, state agencies including the HSE, and civil servants across a range of different departments and agencies.

The Association has also played a significant part in building a strong dental coalition through its involvement in work with other dental stakeholders including the dental schools, the academic community, the representative bodies such as Dental Protection and Medisec and many more besides.

The invitation to the Association to contribute to the consultation exercise prior to publication of a three-year plan to roll out the reforms indicated in the Smile Agus Sláinte Care programme in mid-2024 presaged what looks to be an extremely busy three years ahead. The Association will be present in every significant discussion as it relates to reform of oral health and improving ways to access dental care.

The capacity of the Association to represent its members in such discussions requires the work and effort of significant numbers of volunteers and I wish to pay tribute to all our officers at Committee level, at Board and Council level and especially to our officers whom it has been a privilege to serve in the past year.

I wish to congratulate Dr Rory Boyd on an outstanding presidency following on from the historic presidency of Dr Eamon Croke. Dr Croke has announced his decision to retire from dental practice and I wish to pay personal tribute to Dr Croke who has been pivotal to so much significant work within the Association over four decades. He will forever be cherished and valued as a great friend of dentistry and the Irish Dental Association.

I also wish to salute the work of Mr Ronan King who retires as one of the first of two non-executive directors appointed to the Board and to particularly salute the work he did in improving our advocacy and in representing the profession in discussions with the Revenue Commissioners from 2020 to 2024.

Finally, I wish to thank and pay tribute to our wonderful team in IDA House, without whom none of the service we offer our members would be possible.



COO REPORT

2024 was another strong year for CPD/Education in IDA. CPD/Education continued both regionally and nationally across the year. Dentists are advised that they are obliged to complete 25 hours of verified CPD annually.

Elaine Hughes



CPD/Education

The Association welcomed the Government's announcement that mandatory CPD would be on its priority list for dentistry in 2024.

Following on from new *Sedation and Medical Emergency guidelines* in 2023, members are advised to ensure at a minimum that they and their dental teams are up to date with their BLS or ILS training.

If you are providing sedation, you and your dental team members must be trained in ILS every two years. IDA provides these courses at different times/locations annually. Alternatively, if you have over three or four on your dental team it makes sense to have a trainer or some training company come to your practice for training. Please ensure your drugs kit is up to date with recommended drugs and please ensure they are not out of date. Dentists are also advised to have oxygen available and an AED in the practice.

ADA CERP Approval Renewed

IDA is a certified provider for ADA CPD. This means that all IDA courses are approved by the ADA (*American Dental Association*) for CPD certification. CPD is a legal requirement in the US, therefore, with the ADA CERP it means that US registered dentists can attend IDA courses and these all go towards their annual CPD. The ADA approval lasts until 2026.

Webinars

Our webinar series continued in 2024 with monthly webinars taking place on the last Wednesday of the month at 8pm. Most of our webinars are in our library on the member's section of the website for members to view at a time convenient to them for three months. We also saw the introduction of a series of Compliance Webinars – this series of eight webinars included important key topics on various compliance areas such as *Health & Safety* and *GDPR*. These topics were very well received by members. Thank you to all our presenters and contributors to the webinar series.

Practical Hands-on Courses

IDA grew the hands-on courses offering in 2024 for members. Hands-on practical courses continue to prove very popular with members with most of them booking out.

IDA offered 21 hands-on/practical courses in 2024 along with a full day lecture programme for *Starting Dentistry in Ireland* and *Finance in Dentistry* seminar. We continued to offer BLS and ILS courses around the country through our providers Safe Hands. These courses always prove very worthwhile, and the case studies and role plays often shock participants but also help learn new skills and ways of dealing with situations in the workplace.

We were delighted to welcome Dr Celine Higton who gave a very worthwhile day long course in *Rubber Dam*. Participants rated this course very highly and we hope to have Celine back very soon to give another course.

A big thank you to Optident, Henry Schein and 3M in helping us bring no less than four *Bioclear Courses* to both Dublin and Cork in 2024. Dr Claire Burgess gave this full day course on the Bioclear method for dentists.

Thanks to Dr Eoin Mullane for giving a hands-on endodontic course in Limerick and to *Dentsply* for sponsoring it. It's always nice to have local specialists offer hands-on courses in their regions. Dr Greg Creavin also did a hands-on endo course for IDA in Athlone which again received excellent feedback. Thanks to *Endoperfection* for supporting this course.



Dr Jason Smithson returned to Dublin to give a two-day Ceramics course. Dr Andy Chandrapal came to Cork and gave his two-day Toothwear course at Fota Island. Thank you to Kulzer and NSK for supporting.

A combined day event including two parallel sessions took place in September with the *Starting Dentistry in Ireland* event and a *Financial Seminar – Show me the Money*. Both events ran simultaneously and at the end of the day we held a panel discussion on buying and selling practices. Many thanks to Dental Care Ireland for sponsoring and to all our speakers/presenters on the day.

Annual Conference 2024 “Dental Connections”

A welcome return to the Kingdom and the beautiful Great Southern Hotel Killarney was on the cards for our Annual Conference 2024.

The event saw the unique collaboration with the AAFP – American Academy of Fixed Prosthodontics, whereby a dedicated AAFP programme took place at the conference venue with some 35 visitors from the US attending as part of our programme.


This allowed the conference committee to arrange three simultaneous programmes on both Friday and Saturday mornings at the venue, offering delegates the biggest choice ever in course content.

Thursday 25 April saw no less than six preconference courses take place including the ever-popular Endodontics – Dr Bob Philpott, Posterior Composites – Dr Dipesh Parmar and Prep design in Prosthodontics – Dr Seamus Sharkey.

IDA was especially delighted to bring the first dedicated day on Facial Aesthetics as a preconference course with Drs Sarah Kate Quinlivan, Mairead Browne and Paul Kielty. Following on from the introduction of new guidelines in Sedation and Medical Emergencies, two very worthwhile workshops on this topic were given by Dr Catherine Gallagher and Prof Paul Brady, Cork Dental School and Hospital.







We were also delighted to welcome back Dr Linda Greenwall who gave very interesting workshops on White Spots using ICON.

For those who wanted to take a more relaxing approach to Thursday proceedings, a great day was had at Killarney Golf Club. Dr Declan Fuller was the winner of the Presidents Prize for 2024. Also, a lovely addition to the programme was a visit to the recently opened Killarney Brewery & Distillery on Thursday evening for some whiskey tasting, talented Irish musicians and All Ireland winning Irish dancers – a very fitting showcase of Irish talent for our US visitors.

A lovely evening was had at the Annual Dinner on Friday evening with many partying into the early hours!


The few days out of busy practice meant that members could meet old friends, socialise, and learn new things about dentistry in the beautiful town of Killarney. Our sold-out annual trade show proved ever popular and a big thanks goes to our trade supporters for yet again attending and making this event workable.

HSE Seminar 2024

All roads led to the midlands town of Athlone and the Radisson Hotel for our two day event in October. The bustling town of Athlone is always a popular choice with delegates who travel from all four corners of the country for this seminar.

Whilst CPD and education is a general focus on this two days each year, the big draw for delegates is undoubtedly the social aspect to the seminar. It is so important for HSE colleagues to come and meet with each other and chat, mingle and catch up - something quite rare for HSE colleagues these days to do. Thanks to the trade for supporting the event again this year.

Congratulations to Dr Maura Cuffe who took over the reins as President of the group from Dr Siobhan Doherty. Maura has now joined the Management Committee of IDA.



Colgate Caring Dentist of the Year Awards 2024

Now in its 16th year, the annual Colgate Caring Dentist of the Year Award took place in the plush surroundings of the InterContinental Hotel, Dublin in November. Over 1000 nominations were received in 2024 for both dentists and dental teams right across the country. The evening is always so positive, and it is so heartening to hear wonderful stories about the great work that dentists and their dental teams do daily to assist patients. Undoubtedly the unique selling point of the awards is the fact that all nominations are by patients. Patients are happy to relay stories of kindness, patience and great care which they have received from their dentists/dental teams and the evening is all about recognising this.

IDA was so saddened to say goodbye to our dear friend, Past President Dr Barry Harrington in 2024. Barry was instrumental in helping build and develop the awards year on year and was Chair of the Judging Panel since its inception.

The Awards would not be where it is today but for the dedication of Barry in the process. We will miss him dearly.

Big thank you for our sponsors, Colgate, who have been sponsoring this awards programme for seven years now. 2024 saw the continuation of the following categories for awards including:

- **Young Dentist of the Year** which we are delighted to now have as the “*Dr Barry Harrington Award*”
- **Special Case Award**
- **Care of a Child Award**

The overall winner of Colgate Caring Dentist went this year to a Dr Tom Quilter, GDP, Killarney, Co Kerry. The Colgate Caring Dental Team Award went to Ballinrobe Dental, Mayo. A special word of thanks to our judging panel Drs Seton Menton, Tom Feeney, Frances O’Callaghan and Clodagh McAlister.



Regions/Branches

Many of the branches had activity in 2024 with the continuation of Branch meetings and in certain areas Annual Scientific Meetings. Unfortunately, some areas of the country are seeing a considerable drop in numbers attending monthly evening meetings or indeed Annual Scientific days. Some events had low attendance numbers, and some had to be cancelled as a result. This is a direct result of how time poor members currently are and trying to fit in work, CPD attendance and family/personal life is often a difficult juggle.

Thank you to those branches/regions who held their AGMs during March/April. It is vital to keep local regions/branches alive and active and we continue to ask members around the country to get involved in your branch or simply attend meetings in your area if and when you can. Without a local connection from members to IDA we will not be able to continue to meet the needs of members and understand what the issues are on the ground in different parts of the country. *Your local branch/region needs you!*

Accreditation

IDA continues with its accreditation programme with Mars Wrigleys for their Extra range of chewing gum. The accreditation programme involves a very rigorous exercise of reviewing the ingredients and makeup of the product which then, if approved, allows Wrigleys to use our accreditation logo on their packs of gum. ORAL B – IDA was delighted to accredit the Oral B iO electric toothbrush in 2024. A very rigorous process takes place to verify the product for approval by IDA.

Thank you to the accreditation committee Drs Tiernan O'Brien, Daniel Merrick and Elaine Kehily.

REPRESENTATION & ADVOCACY REPORT

The Association had a hugely busy and productive 2024, representing and advocating for our members across a wide range of areas.

The many manifesto promises in the recent general election show that we are being heard and we will continue to build on this in 2025 to see those promises made real.

Roisin Farrelly





We launched 'Towards a Sustainable Oral Healthcare Service' a comprehensive report on the reform that is needed to develop sustainable national oral health services in Ireland and ensure we can sustain our oral healthcare sector long into the future through appropriate planning and resourcing. The HSE Committee also developed their new vision for the future of the public dental service.

We also continued to make the staffing and resourcing crisis in the dental sector a key priority in terms of campaigning and advocacy. We are lobbying for increased graduate places, the reintroduction of a Foundation Training Scheme, changes to the work permit regulations, amendments to the Dental Council exam for non-EEA dentists and the development of the new Dental School at UCC.

The first half of 2024 was particularly busy, with a huge amount of media coverage during our Annual Conference when we revealed new IDA figures to show 100,000 children had missed out on their school dental screening. We also presented to the Joint Oireachtas Health Committee and attended a Dáil private members' motion on dentistry.

In an election year, we produced a number of tools to help members in making the case for oral health when dealing with candidates locally and also monitored promises made by each political party. This year, we launched our new digital email platform, streamlining our members e-newsletter and making them easier to navigate and more tailored. We completed an audit of our internal communications and also put an increased emphasis on improving our digital communications and social media channels. Encouragingly, the IDA's Instagram account is gaining traction, with reach up 240% in 2024 and content interactions up 100%.

Thanks, as always, to all our representatives who put huge amounts of work and time into representing the profession and advocating on behalf of their colleagues; producing position papers, attending meetings and speaking to the media.

Creating a Vision for Sustainable National Oral Health Services

Media Coverage

In 2024, the IDA featured in some 900 pieces of media coverage, creating in excess of 126 million opportunities for the public to see and hear about the dental sector, and the issues and challenges facing the profession. The PR value of the coverage is worth in excess of €2.26 million to the profession. The public dental school screening programme, medical card scheme and workforce crisis in dentistry generated much of the coverage.

900+

Pieces of Media coverage

126M

Opportunities for the public

€2.26M

PR value of the coverage

Towards a Sustainable Oral Healthcare Service

In March, IDA produced a comprehensive report on what is needed to develop sustainable national oral health services in Ireland. The publication of the position paper coincided with the fifth anniversary of the launch of the national oral healthcare policy, *“Smile agus Sláinte”*.

The paper aims to build an oral healthcare service which is embedded in the 21st century, an oral healthcare service that works for dentists and all your patients. We identified the weakness in the current systems and essential building blocks which need to be put in place to enable successful oral health reforms. Through our proposed strategy we aim to reform the collapsing dental services across our country and ensure we can sustain our oral healthcare sector long into the future through appropriate planning and resourcing.

National Oral Health Policy Implementation

In July, the Association met with the Department of Health and HSE where they outlined significant planned dental reforms over the next three years, implementing sections of the National Oral Health Policy. Key initiatives include new dental schemes for adults and children; ‘enhancing’ the role of the public dental service; workforce capacity and new scope of practice changes; regulation and legislative changes, and, reform management and governance.

IDA’s Chief Executive told the Department that *“the what is important but the how of reform is even more important.”* For the IDA, the key enablers for

successful reform would be firstly, building trust, secondly, bringing the people with you whom you wish to deliver change and, thirdly, proceeding with an open mind.

The Association set out its position on the reforms process and we outlined our commitment to engaging with the Department and the HSE to persuade them of how to achieve change in a manner which is realistic, financially viable and which can secure the support of the dental profession at a time when capacity in the system is being stretched to unprecedented levels.

Oireachtas Health Committee & Dáil Motion

In early May, IDA representatives attended the Oireachtas Health Committee to once again advocate strongly for the dental profession and patients. Alongside the Dental Council, we discussed the lack of legislation to protect patients, the need for more undergraduate places, the problems with the public dental school screening service and the medical card scheme. Politicians were particularly shocked at the lack of mandatory CPD for dentists, something both the profession and regulator have consistently called for. President Dr Rory Boyd told the Committee:

“I teach in the dental school. We have not seen an increase in funding to dental schools over the past 15 years. That gap has been filled by recruiting overseas students at up to €50,000 a year.”

Also in May, and following on from IDA’s ongoing campaigns, the Dáil debated a private members’ motion on dentistry. The motion was submitted on behalf of the Social Democrats by Deputy Róisín Shortall.

DTBS (PRSI Scheme)

Representatives from the Association had a series of meetings with officials from the Department of Social Protection, regarding the review of fees under the PRSI dental scheme (DTBS).

We argued that the fees paid by the Department of Social Protection for treatment items under the DTBS must be increased to bring the fees in line with those charged privately in order to cover the overhead costs of providing the treatments. The Association presented detailed fees survey data to the Department of Social Protection, illustrating the gap between what is currently paid and what is charged for private dental care. We sought significant increases in the fees paid for examinations and scale & polish / PPT plus an increase in patient co-payments.

We were ultimately left frustrated as the final decision on the fees review dragged on past the General Election and into 2025.

Public Service Dentists

In July we launched our new position paper on the future of the HSE public dental service, outlining the Association's vision for the vital role the public dental service must play in our oral healthcare system. The HSE Dental Surgeons Group position paper 'Towards a better oral Healthcare service for children and special care patients' sets out the Association's vision for the future of the public dental service.

Talks continued throughout 2024 on reforms to the public dental service, staffing levels and reporting relationships. The Association wrote to the HSE CEO, Mr Bernard Gloster, following publication of the new HSE Pay and Numbers Strategy (PNS) under which authority to recruit has now been devolved to the six new HSE regions.

The Association sought an urgent meeting in view of the continued decline in staffing within the dental service and the rise in eligible patients and the arrival of new cohorts of patients, including adult medical card patients and international protection adults and children.



The Association also directed all IDA members employed in the HSE to decline all requests from HSE management to assume cross-cover responsibilities.

The IDA executive attended fifteen days of negotiations at the public service pay talks at the Workplace Relations Commission on behalf of dentists employed in the HSE, dental hospitals and in other public service agencies.

IDA was one of two health service unions representing members in addition to the ICTU public service negotiating team and the garda representative bodies. A 30 month pay agreement was concluded in January and IDA recommended acceptance of the pay terms which provide for increases of 10.25% over the period of the agreement. The agreement contains provisions in regard to co-operation with reforms, dispute resolution mechanisms and local bargaining.

Members employed in the HSE and the Cork and Dublin dental schools (including part-time clinical tutors) voted overwhelmingly (94%), in an online ballot, to accept the new public service pay agreement. The deal was concluded in January following fifteen days of talks, attended by the Association.

General Election Campaign

The Association was on Election Watch in November 2024. As well as monitoring promises made by the political parties, we produced a number of tools to help members in making the case for oral health when dealing with candidates locally.

Recognition of more dental specialities, employing salaried public-only dentists to treat medical card patients and expanding the PRSI scheme to cover medical card patients were among the promises made by the main political parties in their manifestos.



Information & Advice

Starting Dentistry in Ireland

In 2024 we updated our guide to starting dentistry in Ireland a useful, go-to resource for IDA members who have recently graduated or who are newly arrived to Ireland. Topics such as the registration process, CVs and interviews, professional indemnity, tax affairs, mentorship, third-party dental schemes, data protection, Dental Council guidelines, and continuous professional development (CPD) requirements are included. It also contains a handy checklist for running a dental practice. We launched the booklet at a really successful seminar for new dentists in September.

Employee Handbook

Our new bespoke Employee Handbook for dental practices was launched in 2024, exclusively available to IDA members. The template handbook can be specifically tailored to your Practice and has been produced with the assistance of HR experts. An employee handbook is an essential document for Practice Owners and an invaluable tool in managing the employee/ employer relationship.

400+

Individual queries
(HR, employment law, etc.)

100+

Updates and flyers
to IDA members

23

Editions of IDA
weekly e-newsletter

6

Editions of the
Journal of the IDA

Our HR and advisory services continued to assist members in both the private and public sectors with individual queries and issues. We had another busy year with over 400 individual queries dealt with, covering areas such as HR / employment law, compliance, state schemes and others.

We sent over 100 updates and flyers to members in 2024, including 23 editions of our weekly e-newsletter. There were also 6 editions of the Journal of the Irish Dental Association over the course of the year.



MEDIA COVERAGE REPORT

A sample of the issues
addressed by the Association
in the national media in 2024

Ireland has fewest dentists out of 24 countries in Europe

SUNDAY INDEPENDENT, 21 JANUARY

The chief executive of the Irish Dental Association, Fintan Hourihan, said he wasn't surprised (...) *"What it means ultimately is patients will end up presenting in pain looking for emergency pain relief and facing the prospect of losing teeth rather than saving teeth."*

Dentists criticise Stephen Donnelly over "offensive" claim that medical card holders are being denied care

IRISH INDEPENDENT, 18 FEBRUARY

Irish Dental Association (IDA) chief executive Fintan Hourihan wrote to Mr Donnelly in December complaining comments made at an Oireachtas Health Committee two days earlier were *"unfair"* and *"unacceptable"*.

"There's no accountability": Leading dentist warns about use of unlicensed botox products

THEJOURNAL.IE, 22 APRIL

A leading dentist has warned of an increase in corrective work being required due to complications arising from botox treatments carried out by non-medically trained persons. Dr Mairead Browne has close to 20 years of experience as a general dentist and has also been doing facial aesthetics for over 15 years.

Over 100,000 children “denied” school dental screening appointments last year

IRISH TIMES, 25 APRIL

“There is huge uncertainty over the service as the Government appears to be suggesting that children should be seen by private dentists, 90 per cent of whom say the priority should in fact be on rebuilding the public dental service,” Mr Hourihan said.

More than 100k children denied school screening dental appointments

IRISH EXAMINER, 25 APRIL

Over 100,000 children were denied school screening dental appointments in 2023, according to the latest figures from the Irish Dental Association (IDA). The association is now calling for immediate additional resources as figures also show that only 50% of eligible schoolchildren were screened by dentists last year.

Dr Caroline Robins interviewed on NEWSTALK BREAKFAST said there is a **huge chasm of deficit in staffing in the public dental service to provide this hugely valuable and needed service.** 25 APRIL

Longer-lasting Botox on the way as dentist warns against “wild west” injection treatments from unlicensed operators

IRISH INDEPENDENT, 26 APRIL

Anti-ageing Botox injections that can reduce wrinkle lines for up to nine months will soon be available in Ireland, according to an Irish dentist. Dr Mairead Browne, a general dental surgeon and aesthetic practitioner, is warning people to only avail of the treatment from qualified practitioners.

Parents urged to raise school dental scheme delays with politicians on doorsteps

IRISH EXAMINER 26 APRIL

Dr Gillian Smith (...) said she is concerned that delays in screening mean families miss out on help in tackling problems with their children’s teeth. She urged people to bring up school dental programmes with politicians on the doorsteps. *“The more that the people who can effect change in the country hear about it, the more likely it is to happen.”*

Ban Vape Shops opening near schools

SUNDAY TIMES, 28 APRIL

Rory Boyd, president of the Irish Dental Association, said: *“There’s clear evidence that shows the impact vaping has on oral health and the exponential increase in the sale of vapes in Ireland over the past three-years is extremely worrying”.*



Dentists offer extra clinics to help treat medical card holders

IRISH INDEPENDENT, 2 MAY

The Irish Dental Association (IDA) has proposed an interim emergency scheme under which HSE dental clinics would be opened at night and weekends, allowing public and private dentists to treat medical card patients caught in a backlog, the Oireachtas Health Committee was told yesterday.

"I routinely take out 20 teeth for two-year-old children": Dentists warn of decay from sugary drinks

IRISH EXAMINER, 2 MAY

The number of HSE dentists dropped by 23% between 2006 and 2022, the Irish Dental Association also told the Oireachtas Health Committee. Dr Gallagher said the Cork hospital has 350 children on waiting lists for extraction under general anaesthetic (...) *"I routinely take out 20 teeth for two-year old children. Those are the ones who've actually managed to grow that many teeth. You have clearances of teeth in small children — small, small children."*

Decision to drop Cork dental school plans "profoundly worrying"

IRISH EXAMINER, 2 MAY

Addressing the Oireachtas Health Committee, Irish Dental Association CEO Fintan Hourihan expressed significant concerns (...) *"The decision to cancel the building of a new dental school in Cork is profoundly worrying"* he warned. *"We believe that, with some smart thinking and collaboration between the relevant Government departments, UCC and the HSE a funding solution should be possible."*

Dr Caroline Robins interviewed on the PAT KENNY SHOW discusses

why so many dentists are leaving the medical card scheme.

She said there is a crisis and that the system is completely outdated and is now an emergency care only scheme. 17 JUNE

"Mass exodus" of dentists in Cork with system " on the brink of collapse"

THE ECHO, 20 JUNE

Cork dentist Mairead Browne, spokesperson for the Irish Dental Association, explained that this focus on emergency care was a major reason for the "mass exodus of dentists" in Cork. *"The scheme is in need of total reform because it's on the brink of collapse. It's from 1994 so it is hugely outdated and doesn't allow clinical autonomy or decision-making."*



Dentists seek cap on course places for overseas students to ease CAO points for Irish school leavers

IRISH TIMES, 10 SEPTEMBER

The Irish Dental Association which represents about 1,800 dentists, has called for a cap of non-EEA students of 20 per cent next years decreasing to 10 per cent over the next three years (...) The association said these non-EEA graduates usually return to their country of origin to practice dentistry rather than remaining in Ireland.

Construction of dental school in Cork must be a "national priority"

IRISH EXAMINER, 12 SEPTEMBER

"The current model of producing dental graduates is unsustainable and Irish patients are suffering the consequences of the shortage of dentists," said Dr Rory Boyd, president of the Irish Dental Association.

Former Dublin GAA star David Hickey speaks about his mouth cancer and the early warning signs to look out for

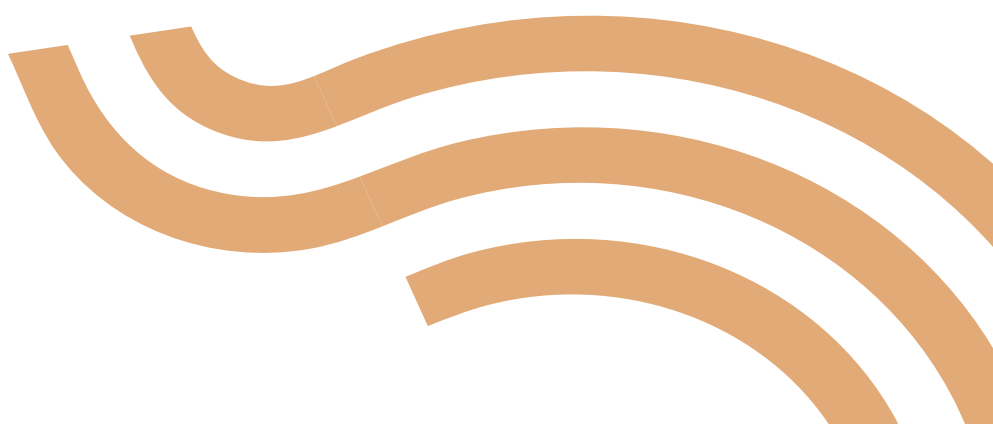
IRISH INDEPENDENT, 18 SEPTEMBER

The GAA legend reflected on his sporting success, his pioneering medical career in the transplant field and his battle with oral cancer on 'The Whole Tooth' podcast in conjunction with the Irish Dental Association. *"With mouth cancer in particular, you have a small window of opportunity, which closes very fast. I would very much recommend regular checks and if you notice anything, like bleeding when brushing your teeth, then you should be seen by your dentist immediately,"* David Hickey said.

Revealed: How many schoolchildren lost out on dental screenings due to lack of public dentists

IRISH INDEPENDENT, 10 OCTOBER

The number of full-time dentists in the public dental service has fallen to 253, down from 330 in 2006, according to the Irish Dental Association (...) It left around 104,000 schoolchildren losing out on dental screening last year (...) Fintan Hourihan, chief executive of the Irish Dental Association, said: *"We are calling on the Government to rebuild the Public Dental Service (PDS) with immediate effect to meet the needs of children and special care patients."*



[illegible]

Council

	26/01	29/02	16/05	19/09	
Dr Rory Boyd	✓	✓	✓	✓	4/4
Dr Robert Bowe	✓	✗	✓	✗	2/4
Dr Maura Cuffe	✓	✓	✓	✓	4/4
Dr Eamon Croke	✓	✓	✗	✓	4/4
Dr Cris da Mata	✓	.	✓	.	2/2
Dr Siobhan Doherty	✓	✓	.	.	2/2
Dr Peter Doyle	✓	✓	✓	✗	3/4
Dr Sarah Edgar	✓	✓	✓	✓	4/4
Dr Maurice Fitzgerald	✗	✗	.	.	2/2
Dr Robin Foyle	✗	✓	✗	✓	2/4
Dr Aodh MacGrainne	✗	✗	✗	✗	0/4
Dr Rosemarie Maguire	✗	✗	✓	✗	1/4
Dr Joe Mahon	✓	✗	✓	✗	3/4
Dr Adedeji Obikoya	✓	✓	.	✗	3/3
Dr Tiernan O'Brien	.	.	✓	✓	2/2
Dr Gerald O'Connor	✗	✓	✓	✗	2/4
Dr Mairead O'Connor	✗	✗	✓	✓	2/4
Dr Aisling O'Sullivan	✗	✗	.	.	0/2
Dr Bob Philpott	✗	✓	✓	✗	2/4
Dr Caroline Robins	✓	✗	.	.	1/2
Dr Will Rymer	✓	✓	✓	✓	4/4
Dr Ambrish Roshan	✗	✗	✓	✓	2/4
Dr Kieran O'Connor for Bob Philpott	✓	.			
Daniel Merrick for Ambrish Roshan	.	✓			

GP committee

	19/01	22/03	20/09	06/12	
Mairead Browne	x	x	x	x	0/4
Susan Crean	.	.	x	✓	1/2
Eamon Croke	✓	✓	x	✓	3/4
Sarah Edgar	✓	✓	x	✓	3/4
Charles Gavin	.	.	x	✓	1/2
Rebecca Hogan Doyle	✓	✓	✓	✓	4/4
Íomar Kearney	✓	✓	x	✓	3/4
Grainne Kieran	.	.	x	✓	1/2
Daniel Linden	.	.	x	✓	1/2
Clodagh McAllister	✓	✓	x	x	2/4
Stephen Moore	x	x	x	x	0/4
Rosemarie Maguire	x	x	x	x	0/4
Ian Mulvey	.	.	x	✓	1/2
John Nolan	✓	✓	✓	x	3/4
Kieran O'Connor	✓	x	✓	✓	3/4
Mairead O'Connor	✓	✓	✓	✓	4/4
Caroline Robins	✓	✓	x	✓	3/4
Will Rymer	✓	✓	✓	✓	4/4

HSE Committee

	22/02	18/04	06/06	05/09	24/10	05/12	
Kate Carmody	✓	✗	1/2
Evelyn Connolly	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	4/6
Maura Cuffe	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6/6
Louise Dockry	✓	✓	2/2
Siobhan Doherty	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6/6
Bridget Harrington Barry	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6/6
Aoife Kelleher	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	5/6
Kathleen Lynch	✓	✓	2/2
Lorraine McManus	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	2/6
Rosarii McCafferty	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	5/6
Philip Mulholland	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	4/6
Ian Murphy	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	3/6
Sharon O'Flynn	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	5/6
Joanna Sikorska	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	4/6
Feleena Tiedt	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6/6



NATIONAL
REPORTS

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

FDI Report

Dr Nuala Carney stepped down as National Liaison Officer (NLO) in May 2024 and was succeeded by Dr Kieran O'Connor. One of his first tasks was to obtain and collate feedback to the eight FDI Policy Statements that were discussed and adopted at FDI World Dental Parliament and Congress Istanbul 2024. The feedback received from colleagues is greatly appreciated and our input resulted in meaningful amendments to the policy statements.

Dr Kieran O'Connor



THE FDI WORLD DENTAL PARLIAMENT meeting took place from 8-15 September and the parallel World Dental Congress CPD event took place from 12-14 September. Mr Fintan Hourihan attended for 3 days and Dr Kieran O'Connor attended for 6 days. It was a busy week with GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETINGS and OPEN FORUM, NLO Open Forum, where the attending representatives of the 134 countries and 184 organisations of FDI were expected to attend and vote where necessary. There were other sessions including:

- **Science Committee Forum**
- **Dental Practice Committee Forum**
- **Antimicrobial Resistance project session**
- **World Oral Health Day**
- **Public Health Committee Forum**
- **Oral Health Observatory project session**
- **Electronic Health records in Dentistry**
- **Refugee oral health promotion and care project session**
- **Sustainability in dentistry project session**
- **Young Dentists Forum**
- **Tobacco Cessation Workshop**
- **Women Empowering Excellence in Dentistry**
- **World Oral Health Forum**
- **Interprofessional collaboration session**
- **Oral Health for the ageing population project session**

Of the many topics which were presented and discussed over the week there were recurrent topics which are of particular importance and relevance to IDA members.

The WHO Global Oral Health Strategy and Vision 2030 was an ever-present backdrop. Of particular interest was the World Oral Health Forum 2024. This is in parallel with on the ground experience of low prioritisation of oral health, weak coordination between government, government agencies, and

stakeholders, inequality in access to care and low oral health literacy. When these factors are combined with financial limitations and human resource shortages in many countries National Oral Health Plans and other “reforms” are failing to deliver.

Digitalisation in dentistry, particularly electronic health records are growing in importance. Many countries have standardised National systems which help clinicians and the population but it is clear that in Ireland our systems are very diverse, fragmented and outdated compared to many countries.

The EU ban on amalgam from January 2025 was discussed widely and FDI policy remains the phase down approach is working and that alternative materials are not practical in all settings. The Northern Ireland exemption was presented and Dr O'Connor spoke from the floor that within EU we are now on a particular course and that is not going to change.

FDI has long been advocating for oral health to be recognized as an integral part of general health and FDI participated in the WHO Global Oral Health Meeting in Bangkok in November 2024. This preparatory meeting for the 2025 UN High-Level Meeting on Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs) highlighted the growing recognition of oral health within the broader public health agenda and FDI continues to work to ensure that oral health is not overlooked in discussions on NCDs.

The Association has been an active member of a coalition of national dental associations seeking change in the governance and funding of FDI, including the management of the World Dental Parliament. FDI General Assembly 2024 decided to establish two sub-committees to review the FDI membership fees model and, separately, the arrangements for the World Dental Parliament.

Council of European Dentists

The Council of European Dentists (CED) is a European non-profit association representing over 340,000 dentists across Europe. Established in 1961, the association comprises 33 national dental associations from 31 European countries.

Dr Robin Foyle

The association's objectives are to develop and execute policy and strategy to:

- **Promote the interests of the dental profession within the EU;**
- **Uphold high standards of oral health;**
- **Maintain high standards of dentistry and dental care;**
- **Safeguard public health protection;**
- **Monitor, analyse, and follow up on all political and legal developments and documents within the EU that pertain to dentists, dental care, and oral health;**
- **Actively lobby the European institutions to serve the legal and political interests of dentists, including consumer protection issues.**

To achieve these objectives, the CED:

- **Monitors EU political and legislative developments impacting the dental profession;**
- **Issues policy statements and drafts amendments to proposed EU legislation to ensure the views of European dentists are reflected in all relevant EU decisions;**
- **Provides expertise to EU institutions in areas such as health and consumer protection, training, workplace safety, and internal market legislation;**
- **Facilitates the exchange of information between national dental associations and supports them in understanding the effects and implementation of EU legislation, especially members from new Member States and EU accession countries;**
- **Collaborates with major European associations of health professionals and other liberal professions on policy issues of shared interest.**

The Irish Dental Association (IDA) is represented by Drs. Robin Foyle, Kieran O'Connor, Michaela Dalton, and Mr. Fintan Hourihan. The CED typically holds two General Meetings per year. In 2024, we attended the first General Meeting in Athens, Greece in May, and the second General Meeting in Brussels in November.

Dr. Robin Foyle was re-elected as a director of the CED at the November GM and participates in Board meetings held in March and September in Brussels, as well as online meetings as required. His term concludes in November 2027, and he is not eligible for re-election. The CED has five working groups:

Dental Materials and Medical Devices

This group primarily focuses on implementing the Medical Devices Regulation (MDR) 2017/745.

Patient Safety, Infection Control and Waste management

This group advises on patient safety and quality of care issues, particularly the development of policy and sharing best practices relevant to dentistry. It monitors national laws and practices in infection control and waste management, such as sterilization practices and methods of disposing of contaminated dental waste and other waste produced in dental offices.

E-Health

This group monitors developments and prepares CED policy in e-Health related areas, including the development of common standards for information exchange regarding patient records at both EU and national levels. It currently lobbies on the European Health Data Space regulation which came into force on March 26th, 2025.

Oral Health

This group follows developments and prepares CED policy on oral health-related areas including prevention and promotion, pharmaceutical strategy, tobacco, alcohol, nutrition, diseases, health inequalities, children's health, healthy aging, antimicrobial resistance (AMR), vaccination policy, and more.

Education

This group advises on the implementation and developments of the Professional Qualifications Directive and makes recommendations on basic dental training, vocational training, continuing dental education, and specialization in dentistry.

Additionally, there is a task force on the EU Internal Market responsible for monitoring and advising on internal market-related issues affecting dentistry. This includes matters like patient and professional mobility, competition policy, and corporate dentistry. A list of the CED policy papers and activities can be found on www.cedentists.eu

GP COMMITTEE

The GP Committee has had a productive year addressing key challenges facing the dental profession.

Throughout the year, the committee has focused on three critical areas: the workforce crisis, the needs of Associates, inputting to IDA's vision for sustainable oral health, and negotiations on the PRSI (DTBS) scheme.

This report provides an overview of the committee's activities and achievements in these areas.

Dr Caroline Robins



Addressing the Workforce Crisis

The dental profession has faced significant workforce challenges and the committee has continued to work on this issue in 2024. We conducted another survey of members in April to assess current shortages and predict future needs. We worked with the Executive to engage with educational institutions and to advocate for increased dental training placements. We also strongly advocated for the return of the Foundation Training Scheme.

Associates on the GP Committee

We carried out a survey of Associates in 2024 to find out what are the issues facing them and what IDA can do assist them. Following on from the survey we were delighted to welcome a number of new members to the Committee who are dental associates at different stages of their career.

Developing IDA's Vision for a Sustainable Oral Health Service

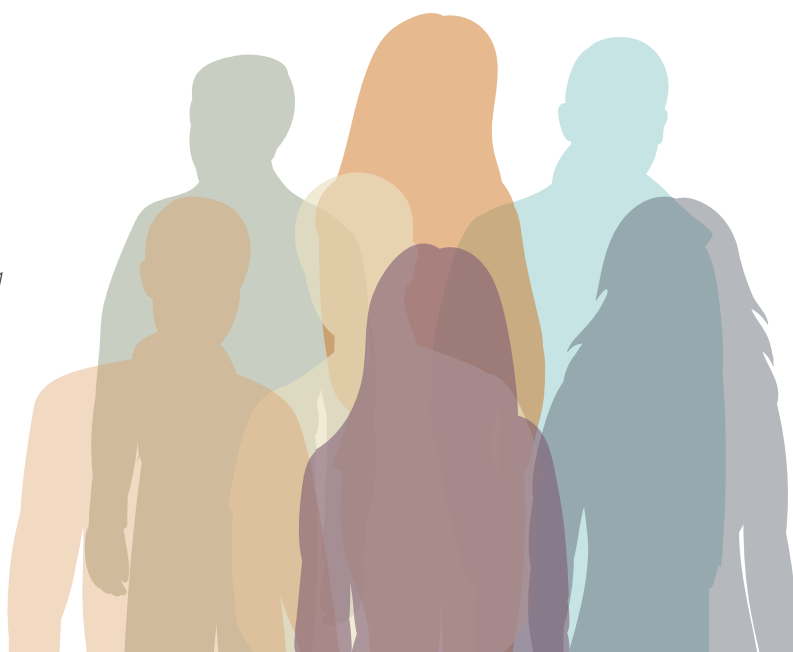
Several members of the GP Committee provided input into the Association's key policy publication, Towards a Sustainable National Oral Health Service, outlining our views on how general practice dentistry can develop into the future in a sustainable and properly resourced way.

DTBS Fees Review

The Committee's DTBS team, along with members of the Executive, attended a series of meetings with officials from the Department of Social Protection, under the annual fees review for the scheme. They argued that the DTBS fees for the examination and the Scale and Polish must be increased to bring them in line with those charged privately in order to cover the overhead costs of providing the treatments. However, despite initial assurances this would be a quick and efficient process, the final decision on fees has dragged into 2025. It is something we will be prioritising in the coming year.

Acknowledgments

The GP committee remains committed to advocating for the profession and for our patients. I would like to extend my gratitude to all committee members who have contributed to these efforts throughout the year. In particular, our newer members, who have brought a renewed energy and enthusiasm to the Committee. The future of General Practice at the centre of IDA remains bright.



JOURNAL OF THE IRISH DENTAL ASSOCIATION

The Journal of the Irish Dental Association remained an important platform for communication between the IDA and dentists on the island of Ireland in 2024. The journal continued to be published bimonthly online and in print, with Scholastica serving as the platform for submission and publication of the journal's scientific content.

Dr Cristiane da Mata



Access to the online scientific JIDA continues to grow, and the journal's reach has increased substantially since being indexed by Google scholar and published on the Scholastica platform, as shown by the impressive statistics from last year.

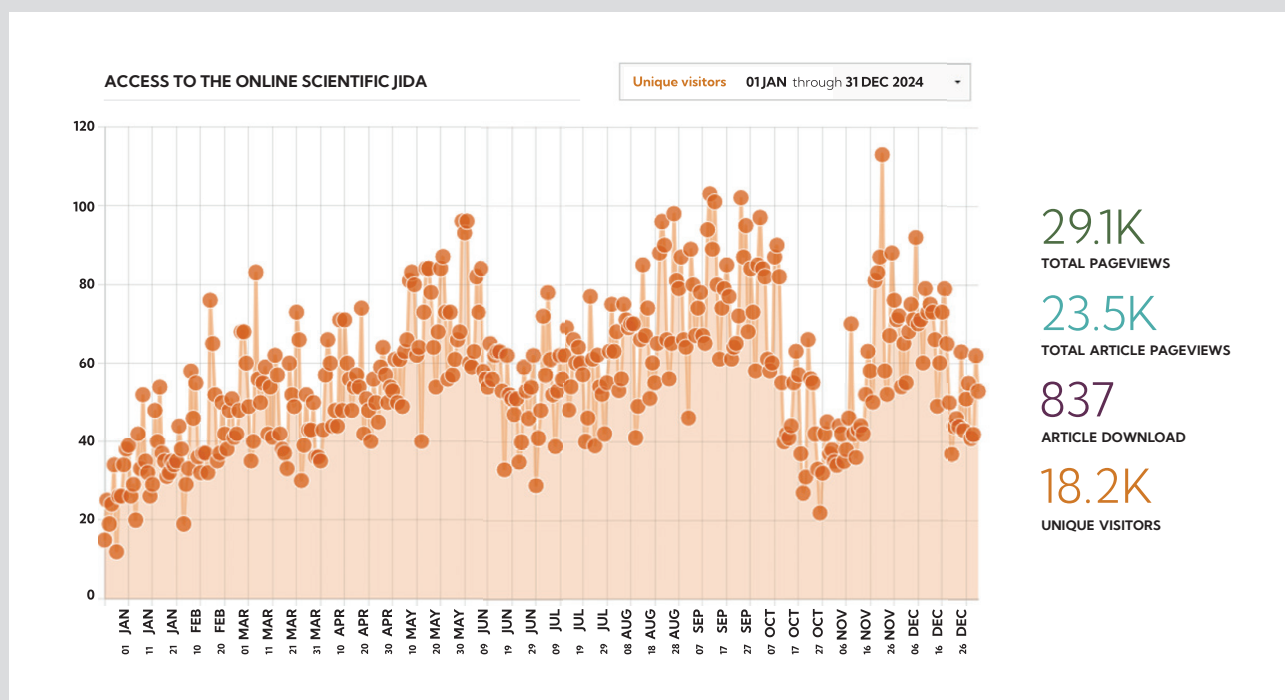
JIDA ONLINE



The editorial board, as always, played a key role in the progress of the journal in 2024, convening in January, May, and September. In an effort to broaden participation on the editorial board to include other dental team members, we welcomed Una Farrell, a hygienist in private practice in Kerry. Una, who also serves on the board of the Irish Dental Hygiene Association (IDHA) newsletter, and was therefore recommended by the IDHA.

Members of the editorial board discussed the editorial content during the meetings and constantly reviewed the publication's role in serving dentists and the broader dental team.

In line with these discussions, a taskforce was established by the IDA to enhance the JIDA. The taskforce focused on assessing the journal's format, content, and future direction and its members included Dr. Cristiane da Mata (JIDA Editor), Dr. Rory Boyd (IDA President), Fintan Hourihan (IDA CEO), Roisin Farrelly (IDA Directors of Communications and Advocacy), Liz Dodd (JIDA coordinator), David McReynolds (JIDA Deputy Editor), and Dr. Ronan King (IDA Director). They were later joined by Aileen O'Toole, who had played a key role in reviewing the IDA communication channels in 2024. An inaugural meeting of this taskforce took place in June via Zoom, and the taskforce continued to meet over the next



6,827



4,257



3,105



2,780



1,559



913



811



727



543

few months, culminating more recently with the invitation to tenders from qualified publishers for the production, design, and distribution of JIDA. While the process is still ongoing, the goal is to create a publication that better aligns with the IDA's mission and GDP's expectations, and that continues to:

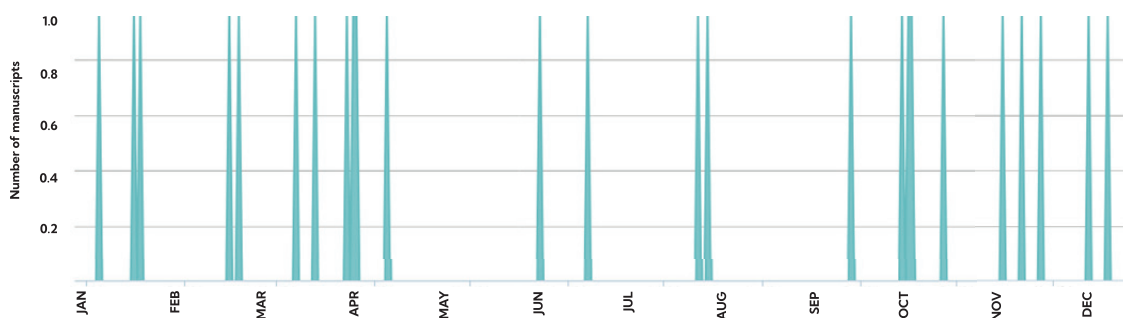
- Promote Dental Science and Education
- Engage with the Profession
- Recruit New Members
- Influence Decision Makers

The journal remains cost free for the association and readers and Think Media continued to attract

and manage all advertisement in the journal. They were glad to report at the most recent meeting of the editorial board that 2024 was a positive year commercially and this momentum is carrying over into 2025.

We are all looking forward to the changes ahead and hope that 2025 brings exciting updates that will definitely strengthen the journal's mission to inform and guide the dental profession in Ireland and beyond.

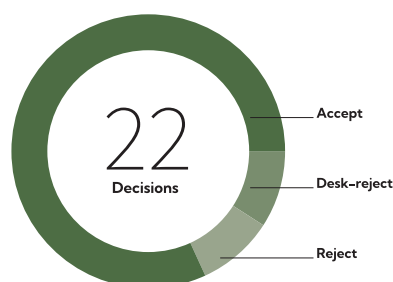
NUMBER OF SUBMISSIONS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR



Dentists and researchers from Ireland and abroad continued to contribute to the journal with high-quality work. A total of twenty-five articles, including peer-reviewed papers, clinical tips, and clinical features, were received in 2024.

The figures below illustrate the distribution of submissions throughout the year, along with the editorial decisions made during this period.

DECISION BREAKDOWN BY TYPE



HSE DENTAL SURGEONS GROUP

2024 was another challenging and busy year for the HSE Dental Surgeons' Group. The Group met and worked with a fresh focus on recruiting and retaining new HSE members to the Association.

Dr Maura Cuffe



In an effort to highlight the many benefits of IDA membership a tailored recruitment brochure was produced. This was disseminated electronically by IDA House and distributed in person by the HSE Group committee members and IDA team at various events. We continued to send targeted emails to HSE members to raise awareness of IDA activities and services including attending CPD events that were particularly interesting to HSE dentists. The committee actively encouraged colleagues to become involved in the Association and to have their voices heard. The JIDA feature (AUG/SEPT 24) on the HSE Group highlighted the issues we are grappling with and gave another insight into the work the Group undertakes.

The Group met both in person and virtually as members found it challenging to balance commitments in an understaffed environment. The Group fostered positive relations with our colleagues within the Association, especially the GP Committee where there is a strong and shared understanding of the issues facing both member groups. This united front was evident when an IDA team presented to the Joint Committee on Health in the Dail in May 2024 on the “*Challenges Relating to the Provision of Dentistry Services*”. We thank all our colleagues who highlighted the positive aspects of the services and the improvements possible if the service was adequately resourced. This led to much media coverage of the difficulties in accessing dental care under general anaesthesia.

The HSE Dental Surgeons’ Group produced its own position paper on dental reform “*Towards a better oral healthcare service for children and special care patients*”. This paper sets out our vision of where the public service needs to be positioned within oral health services in Ireland. The paper was designed to complement the IDA policy document “*Towards Sustainable National Oral Health Services*”. Both papers highlight the importance of implementing dental reforms in a sustainable manner consistent with the WHO Global Oral Health Plan. The Group owes a considerable debt to Drs Eamonn Croke and Siobhan Doherty for being the main drivers behind these position papers.

Both papers were formally presented as part of the IDA response to the Draft Implementation Plan of the National Oral Health Policy. The IDA delegation gave robust constructive feedback on the plan presented to us at that “*stakeholder engagement*” meeting in July and highlighted necessary “*key enablers*” and fundamentals such as the development of trust between the parties. I thank the other members of the delegation for their vocal support for the Public Dental Service. We await publication of the Implementation Plan and whether any of our key concerns and suggestions have been incorporated.

We attended many meetings with the HSE and the Department of Health representing HSE members on legacy issues should as the out of hours HSE (night)

session rate. The evening session rate negotiation was eventually brought to a conclusion with enabling memos issued by the Department and subsequently by the HSE.

We continued to highlight both the staffing crisis within the Public Dental Service (PDS) and persistent recruitment issues, at the HSE level, at these meetings. Again IDA wrote to the HSE Chief Executive, Mr Bernard Gloster, when the “Pay and Numbers” strategy was launched and this led to continuing engagement on these critical matters.

In addition, the re-structuring of the HSE was a permanent topic for discussion at these engagements. We worked to highlight our serious concerns regarding the positioning of both the National Oral Health Office and the PDS itself within the developing HSE Centre and Regional Health Areas. The implications for service users, the service itself and HSE Dental staff were continually brought to the table. Service issues such as difficulties in GA access were also always on the agenda.



HSE members were strongly represented by the IDA in industrial relations in 2024, both in terms of collective representation with the HSE and in advice and representation of individual members in grievance cases and contract issues, amongst others. We must thank Roisin Farrelly for her tireless support in advising and representing individual members.

In October we held the HSE Dental Surgeons Annual Seminar in Athlone. The event was well attended and the delegate feedback was positive. Small group workshops made a welcome return and we hope delegates returned to clinic on the Monday energised. Again the opportunity was taken to highlight our issues on local and national radio in an effort to stimulate political engagement. Thanks to all members who made themselves available.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the HSE Dental Surgeons' Group to thank the Management Team and Council of the IDA for their support. I would also like to thank the Executive Team for working with us as a Group to represent HSE members. I would encourage all HSE members to engage with their regional representatives so that we can bring your voice to the table.

Lastly thanks to my fellow Committee members for your dedication and commitment.

QUALITY & PATIENT SAFETY COMMITTEE



The Irish Dental Association's Quality and Patient Safety Committee aims to assist members to achieve compliance with the regulations applicable to dental practices.

The Committee aims to ensure its advice is reasonable, practical and based on the best available evidence.

The advice is prepared following a review of international and national standards and is subject to in-depth assessment by the Committee.

Dr Gerald O'Connor



We have had another busy year where we focused on the areas of sustainability, justification for dental radiology and medical devices. Of particular note this year are the following:

Medical Devices Directive

We produced a document for IDA members on the Medical Devices Directive as it impacts dentists.

Amalgam Phase out

Members of the Committee attended a Department of Health stakeholder meeting on the phase out of amalgam.

HIQA focus groups

Members of QPSC attended HIQA focus groups on new draft radiological justification guidelines to give feedback and input from the profession.

A sustainability sub-group of the Committee has produced two articles on plastics for publication in the Journal of the IDA (JIDA). The sub-group is also meeting with the dental trade examining ESG policies and looked at the areas of packaging and energy consumption.

Acknowledgments

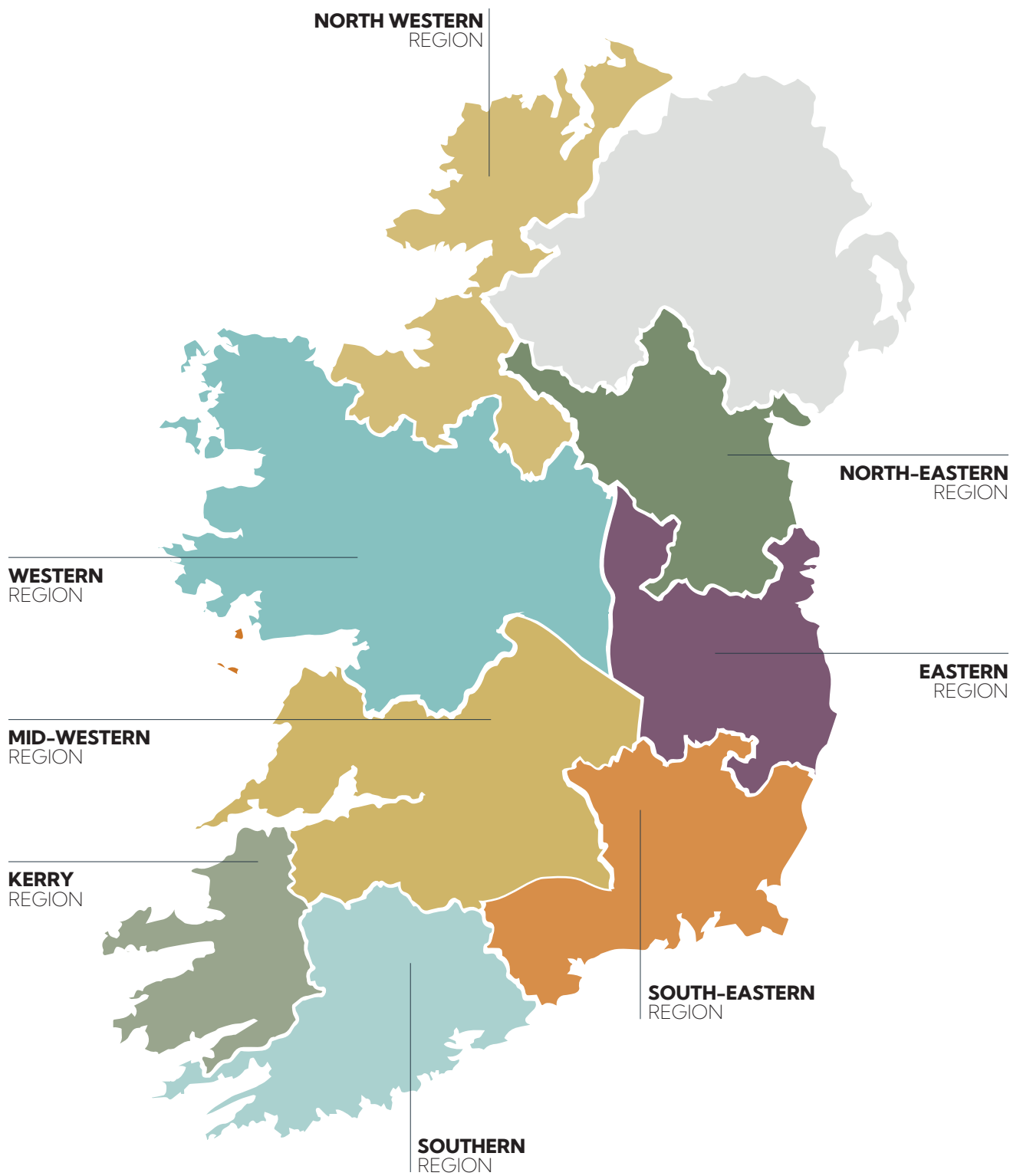
I would, as always, like to acknowledge the hard work, professionalism and dedication of my colleagues Drs Nick Armstrong, Kieran O'Connor, Evelyn Connolly, Eamon Croke, Michaela Dalton, Louise Dockry, Ahmed Kahatab, Gabrielle O'Donoghue, Maria O'Grady and James Tarpey.



REGIONAL REPORTS



IDA
REGIONS
MAP



NORTH WESTERN
REGION

NORTH-EASTERN
REGION

WESTERN
REGION

EASTERN
REGION

MID-WESTERN
REGION

KERRY
REGION

SOUTH-EASTERN
REGION

SOUTHERN
REGION



MID-WESTERN REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Dr Rob Bowe, President

Dentists in the Midwest had a very busy clinical year with members reporting a heavy workload. The membership in the Midwest is 107. We ran three events this year with attendance numbers of between 10 and 16 members. This represents an engagement rate of approximately 15%.

Dr Rob Bowe, President

The first lecture of 2024 titled *“Full Arch Immediate Loading using the Allon4 Concept 2012- Present”* was delivered in February by Dr Robert Bowe. The key takeaway message from this lecture was that this is a long term proven safe treatment which reduces time to teeth and facilitates immediate return to function. Patient satisfaction is very high.

In November the members heard from Dr Michael Galvin who delivered a thought-provoking lecture titled *“Telescopic Bridges An alternative to Implants”*. Dr Galvin gave a fascinating lecture on a reliable tried and tested technique. The key takeaway message was that if you have teeth strategically spread around the arch non-invasive full arch restoration without implants can be completed. This is even possible if there is mild mobility in teeth and implants can be used to supplement support.

The CEO Mr Fintan Hourihan visited the members twice during the year to canvas opinion on issues relevant to local dentists and update members on progress in negotiations on state schemes.

The Annual Mid-west golf Outing took place on August 29th on a sunny day at the end of the summer. This was once again organized by Dr Michael Galvin.

Local members were grateful to the IDA for its campaign in resolving the potential VAT issue between principals and associates this year. This is a weight off their minds.

In 2025/2026 Midwest members want the IDA to lobby to resolve the staffing crisis in dentistry. Members wish to focus on two areas in particular:

- More places for dental students in Irish dental schools and
- Dentists and dental professionals to be added to the Dept of Justice Critical Skills List.

Again, the challenge has been to engage members when life and business are very busy. We are hoping Ireland can come to grips with the dental skills shortage to allow members a little bit more time to engage with their colleagues.

SOUTHERN REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Dr Robert Philpott, President

Committee Members

Dr Robert Philpott
Dr Martin O' Sullivan
Dr Kieran O' Connor
Dr Arthur O' Connor
Dr Lettice O' Leary
Dr Mairead Browne
Dr Meriem Abbas
Dr Martin Holohan

The branch organised four meetings in 2024-25 year, with a further scheduled for April 2025.

- 5th September: *“Human Factors in Dentistry”* Noel Kavanagh, DPL
- 17th October: *“The Friday Bridge Prep”* Dr Seamus Sharkey
- 10th December: *“Molar-Incisor Hypomineralisation”* Dr Siobhan Lucey
- 23rd January (2025): *“Endodontic Concepts I wish I’d understood 15 years ago.....”*

Average attendance at the evening lectures was approximately 20 delegates.

This was an increase on previous years. The focus was on improving these attendances and an ASM was not run last year.

Costs as a result, were lower for the branch. Omega Financial kindly sponsored one evening event but the remaining lectures were IDA-funded and we remain on the lookout for an event sponsor. The intention is to hold an ASM again in November 2025.

Overall, it was a successful year for the Southern Branch and we will hold our AGM on April 1st.





EASTERN REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Dr Ambrish Roshan, President

Members of Eastern Region have endured a challenging year with organising events particularly due to reduced engagement from our members.

We had three evening meetings where members had the opportunity to learn from fellow colleagues through short lectures and case discussions specific to the knowledge base of our speakers. The turnout to these in-person evening meetings was significantly reduced from the previous years despite the high calibre of speakers invited.

The committee had also curated seven speakers from various specialist fields for our annual scientific meeting which was supposed to take place at *The Hilton at Charlemont* in March.

However, due to the very low numbers registered, we were advised to cancel the event with a week's notice. The clinical topics planned covered a wide range from day-to-day general dentistry such as dental anxiety, communication to reduce dentolegal risks, biomimetic restorative dentistry to specialised areas such as oral surgery, implantology and endodontics.

Overall, this year has been disappointing for the Eastern Region, but I believe that we will see an increase in attendance for future events. On behalf of the Eastern Region committee, I would also like to thank our loyal sponsors and all speakers for their continued support.

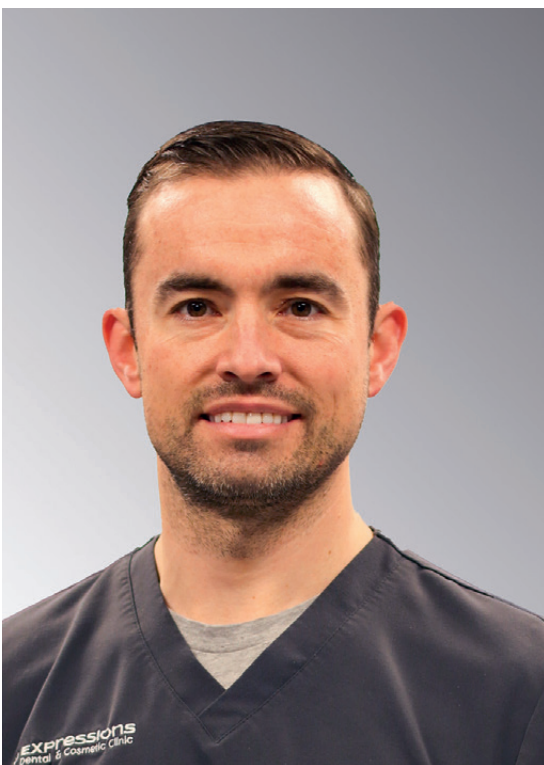


FINANCIAL REPORT

HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT

I would like to commence my Honorary Treasurer's Report 2024, by highlighting that the financial reports of; the Irish Dental Association CLG and the Irish Dental Union; the Directors', Trustees' reports, and the audited financial statements for the year end December 31, 2024, are contained within in the IDA Annual Reports 2024. The audit for this period was prepared by Crowe Ireland, Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors. I would like to thank the Executive, Finance Committee, and the trustees for their support through this process.

Dr Will Rymer



I am pleased to report a surplus from IDA activities for the fiscal year amounting to €103,982. This represents a three-and-a-half-fold increase year-on-year, allowing us to reinvest in critical infrastructure and initiatives to support the profession into the future.

Through prudent fiscal management and the Executive's strong work across membership, accreditation, and CPD, we have secured a solid financial base heading into 2025.

IDA Income

IDA income improved in 2024, reaching €1,961,489 (2023: €1,889,718), an increase of 4%. Membership retention has been a consistent challenge, but membership brought in €1,332,295. We remain vulnerable to fluctuations in subscription numbers; every member is valuable, and retaining students as they transition into full members is essential. Membership numbers have stabilized recently, and the Management Committee continues to explore growth strategies.

We have achieved modest progress in diversifying income streams. CPD and education brought in an additional €32,196 compared with 2023. Accreditation performed well in 2024, showing a 48% year-on-year increase and generating an additional €25,000. Conference income declined by 6%, due to the remote venue and rising hospitality costs. Advisory services, including practice management seminars and the practice handbook, contributed an additional €7,000 in revenue.

IDA Expenditure

IDA expenditure remained stable in 2024 at €1,852,066 (€1,857,952 in 2023). Staff costs remain the largest expense at €811,172. Other key areas of expenditure include CPD education, which rose in cost due to increased offerings. Importantly, margins improved from 18% to 25% in 2024. Meetings and delegations increased by 80% to €13,107, reflecting greater advocacy and representation efforts. Public relations and public affairs costs rose 10% to €164,550. Legal and professional fees declined by 39% to €44,225. Given our advisory role, legal fees can vary, and with planned 2025 consultations on the Smile agus Sláinte implementation plan, legal support may be needed again next year.

Investments made in 2022 and 2023 in our CRM systems have led to ongoing IT and communications infrastructure costs. These investments enhance member services and strengthen our advocacy. We also recently upgraded our website with single sign-on functionality, with further improvements planned in 2025. These efforts are reflected in the €73,405 spent on Computer and IT costs.

Boynevale Dental Property Ltd

Boynevale Dental Property Ltd, which owns IDA House and acts as landlord (rent: €42,000 per annum), remains profitable. Profit for the year was €19,147. Fixed assets stand at €730,000 and total year-end equity at €582,809. The property was last valued in February 2023, with revaluation due in 2026.

Summary

The Irish Dental Association reported a surplus of €103,982 in 2024 and maintains cash reserves equal to five months of income.

Membership subscriptions remain the Association's primary risk. Membership declined from a peak of 1,849 in December 2019 to 1,719 as of December 31, 2024. This marks a stabilization in numbers, though retention remains a key concern. The Executive and Management Committee continue to focus energy on this issue. A Membership Manager is likely to be included in the 2025 People Plan. Following the 2024 multiannual budget, we are implementing a revised recruitment and retention strategy and introducing cost controls as recommended by the Finance Committee.

Given our 69% financial dependence on the subscriptions, it is important that every member of the Association understands their recruitment role and promote the IDA to colleagues who may not be IDA members. Peer-to-peer recruitment is the strongest tool the Association has.

Conclusion

Our increased surplus presents an opportunity to reinvest in members. A strong surplus enables better infrastructure, services, advocacy, and value. It supports sustainability and increases our impact at a time of notable change in the dental landscape. The Management Committee remains committed to cost control and maintaining contingency funds for the benefit of the Association and its members. I extend my gratitude to Fintan Hourihan, Irina Pochinkova, all IDA staff, the Board, Independent Non-Executive Directors, the Audit & Risk Committee, trustees, and Crowe Ireland for their support during my tenure. I also wish Dr. Tiernan O'Brien every success as incoming Honorary Treasurer.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Management Committee

Dr Rory Boyd

President

Dr Eamon Croke

Vice President

Dr Will Rymer

President Elect, Honorary Treasurer

Dr Tiernan O'Brien

Honorary Treasurer Elect

Dr Mairead O'Connor

Ms. Geraldine Kelly

Mr. Ronan King

Dr Maura Cuffe

Trustees

Dr Martin Holohan

Dr Kieran O'Connor

Dr Barney Murphy

Independent auditors

Crowe Ireland

D04 C2N4

Dublin,

Dublin 4

Ireland

Chief Executive Officer

Fintan Hourihan

Bankers

Bank of Ireland

2-3 Main Street Dundrum

D14 K4A9

Dublin 4

Ireland

Honorary Treasurer

Dr Will Rymer

Registered Office

Irish Dental Association

Leopardstown Office Park

Sandyford Business Park

Dublin 18

D18 F588

Ireland

Solicitors

O'Connor Solicitors LLP

8 Clare Street

D02 E021

Dublin 2

Ireland

Management Committee's Responsibilities Statement

for the year ended 31 December 2024

The Management Committee presents their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024. The Management Committee are responsible for preparing the Management Committees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with Irish law and regulations.

The rules of the Association require the Management Committee to prepare the financial statements for each financial year. Under the law, the Management Committee have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the Companies Act 2014 and Financial Reporting Standard 102 *'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'*.

Under company law, the Management Committee must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the Association as at the financial year end date, of the profit or loss for that financial year and otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014.

In preparing these financial statements, the Management Committee is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies for the Association's financial statements and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Association will continue in business.

The Management Committee are responsible for ensuring that the Association keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the Association, enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the Association to be determined with reasonable accuracy, enable them to ensure that the financial statements and Management Committees' Report comply with the Companies Act 2014 and enable the financial statements to be audited. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Association and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Management Committees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Association's website. Legislation in Republic of Ireland governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

On behalf of the Management Committee

Dr Rory Boyd

(President)

Management Committee

Dr Will Rymer

(President Elect and Honorary Treasurer)

Management Committee

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Irish Dental Association

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Irish Dental Association (the 'Association') for the year ended 31 December 2024, which comprise the Statement of Comprehensive Income, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Changes in Funds, the Statement of Cash Flows and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies set out in note 2. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is Irish law and Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'. In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the Association as at 31 December 2024 and of its profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the rules of the Association.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) (ISAs (Ireland)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard for Auditors (Ireland) issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), and

we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate. Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue. Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Management Committee with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report, other than the financial statements and our Auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other

information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2014

We have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, are necessary for the purposes of our audit. In our opinion the accounting records of the were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited, and the financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

The Companies Act 2014 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion, the requirements of any of sections 305 to 312 of the Act, which relate to disclosures of directors' remuneration and transactions are not complied with by the Association. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Respective responsibilities and restrictions on use

Responsibilities of Management Committee
As explained more fully in the Management Committee's Responsibilities Statement on page 2, the Management Committee are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework that give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Management Committee determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the Management Committee are responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the management either

intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditor's Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (Ireland) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the IAASA's website at: <http://www.iaasa.ie>. This description forms part of our Auditor's Report.

The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

This report is made solely to the Association's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 391 of the Companies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Association's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Association and the Association's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Aidan Ryan F.C.A.
for and on behalf of Crowe Ireland
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm
40 Mespil Road

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 31 December 2024

INCOME	NOTES	2024 (€)	2023 (€)
Membership subscriptions		1,332,295	1,304,577
Journal sales		88,655	91,315
Accreditation		65,000	40,000
CPD/Education income		175,345	143,149
Dental awards		-	5,265
Conference income		248,490	263,594
Advisory and consultancy services		25,624	18,818
Other income		26,080	23,000
		1,961,489	1,889,718
EXPENDITURE			
Staff costs		811,172	785,722
Conference expenses		230,899	222,720
CPD/Education expenses		132,064	118,279
Rates and water		9,797	10,011
Light and heat		5,767	8,851
Insurances		11,168	12,167
Premises costs		11,619	14,529
Member's compensation		13,504	15,675
Travel and subsistence		30,052	36,298
Telephone		17,522	16,149
Printing, stationery and postage		71,072	83,204
Staff welfare		14,538	13,852
Medical and life insurance		35,065	30,581
Meetings, delegations, courses and presidential expenses		13,107	7,288
Centenary costs		-	18,455
Subscriptions and affiliation fees		42,699	49,830
Bank charges		15,991	15,488
Public relations and advertising		164,550	148,208
Legal and professional fees		44,225	72,138
Auditors' remuneration		7,840	7,840
Young dentist expenses		1,200	1,200
Sundry		3,597	3,360
Recruitment		1,317	191
Computer and IT costs		73,405	76,743
Depreciation		39,896	38,166
Rent		42,000	42,000
Gifts and donations		8,000	9,007
		1,852,066	1,857,952

The notes on pages XX to 23 form part of these financial statements.

SURPLUS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR	4	109,423	31,766
Tax on surplus	6	(5,441)	(1,883)
NET SURPLUS		103,982	29,883

There were no recognised gains and losses for 2024 or 2023 other than those included in the statement of comprehensive income. All operations are continuing operations.

Balance sheet

for the year ended 31 December 2024

FIXED ASSETS	NOTES	2024 (€)	2023 (€)
Tangible assets	7	76,981	105,76
		76,981	105,76
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors: amounts falling due after more than one year	8	98,259	115,394
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	8	211,073	217,141
Bank & cash balances		816,280	726,425
		1,125,612	1,058,960
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(224,948)	(291,061)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		900,664	767,899
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		977,645	873,663
NET ASSETS		977,645	873,663
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Profit and loss account	12	977,645	873,663
NET FUNDS		977,645	873,663

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Management Committee:

Dr Rory Boyd (President)
Management Committee

Dr Will Rymer (President Elect and Honorary Treasurer)
Management Committee

Date:

Statement of changes in funds

for the year ended 31 December 2024

	PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT (€)	TOTAL EQUITY (€)
At 1 January 2024	873,663	873,663
Net surplus	103,982	103,982
At 31 December 2024.....	977,645	977,645

for the year ended 31 December 2023

	PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT (€)	TOTAL EQUITY (€)
At 1 January 2023	843,780	843,780
Net surplus	29,883	29,883
At 31 December 2023.....	873,663	873,663

Statement of cash flows

for the year ended 31 December 2024

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	2024 (€)	2023 (€)
Profit for the financial year	103,982	29,883
ADJUSTMENTS FOR		
Depreciation of tangible assets	39,895	38,165
Decrease in debtors	6,068	108,333
Decrease in amounts owed by groups	17,135	-
(Decrease) in creditors	(66,113)	(4,065)
NET CASH GENERATED FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	100,967	172,316
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(11,112)	(4,767)
NET CASH FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	(11,112)	(4,767)
NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	89,855	167,549
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	726,425	558,876
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF YEAR	816,280	726,425
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF YEAR COMPRISE:		
Cash at bank and in hand	816,280	726,425
	816,280	726,425

The notes on pages XX to 23 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2024

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The financial statements comprising the Statement of Comprehensive Income, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Changes in Funds, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes constitute the individual financial statements of Irish Dental Association for the financial year ended 31 December 2024.

Irish Dental Association's principal activity is to act as the representative body for the dental profession in the Republic of Ireland. The registered office is Unit 2, Leopardstown Office Park, Sandyford, Dublin 18.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

2.1 BASIS OF PREPARATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis and in accordance with the historical cost convention modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued by the Financial Reporting Council.

The preparation of financial statements in compliance with FRS 102 requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise judgment in applying the Association's accounting policies.

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the Association's financial statements.

2.2 FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSLATION

FUNCTIONAL AND PRESENTATION CURRENCY

The Association's functional and presentational currency is Euros.

TRANSACTIONS AND BALANCES

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the spot exchange rates at the dates of the transactions.

At each period end foreign currency monetary items are translated using the closing rate. Non-monetary items measured at historical cost are translated using the exchange rate at the date of the transaction and non-monetary items measured at fair value are measured using the exchange rate when fair value was determined.

Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of transactions and from the translation at period-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in profit or loss except when deferred in other comprehensive income as qualifying cash flow hedges.

Foreign exchange gains and losses that relate to borrowings and cash and cash equivalents are presented in the Statement of

Comprehensive Income within 'finance income or costs'. All other foreign exchange gains and losses are presented in profit or loss within 'other operating income'.

2.3 REVENUE

Revenue is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Association and the revenue can be reliably measured. Revenue is measured as the fair value of the consideration received or receivable, excluding discounts, rebates, value added tax and other sales taxes. The following criteria must also be met before revenue is recognised:

RENDERING OF SERVICES

Revenue from a contract to provide services is recognised in the period in which the services are provided in accordance with the stage of completion of the contract when all of the following conditions are satisfied:

- the amount of revenue can be measured reliably;
- it is probable that the Association will receive the consideration due under the contract;
- the stage of completion of the contract at the end of the reporting period can be measured reliably; and
- the costs incurred and the costs to complete the contract can be measured reliably.

2.4 PENSIONS

DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PENSION PLAN

The Association operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the Association pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the Association has no further payment obligations.

The contributions are recognised as an expense in profit or loss when they fall due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals as a liability in the Balance Sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the Association in independently administered funds.

2.5 OPERATING LEASES: THE ASSOCIATION AS LESSEE

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to profit or loss on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

2.6 TAXATION

Tax is recognised in profit or loss except that a charge attributable to an item of income and expense recognised as other comprehensive income or to an item recognised directly in equity is also recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity respectively.

The current income tax charge is calculated on the basis of tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date in the countries where the Association operates and generates income. Deferred tax balances are recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed by the balance sheet date, except that:

- The recognition of deferred tax assets is limited to the extent that it is probable that they will be recovered against the reversal of deferred tax liabilities or other future taxable profits; and
- Any deferred tax balances are reversed if and when all conditions for retaining associated tax allowances have been met.

Deferred tax balances are not recognised in respect of permanent differences except in respect of business combinations, when deferred tax is recognised on the differences between the fair values of assets acquired and the future tax deductions available for them and the differences between the fair values of liabilities acquired and the amount that will be assessed for tax. Deferred tax is determined using tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

2.7 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Tangible fixed assets under the cost model are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

At each reporting date the Association assesses whether there is any indication of impairment. If such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is determined which is the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and its value in use. An impairment loss is recognised where the carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method.

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:
Fixtures & fittings - 20% straight line

The assets' residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted prospectively if appropriate, or if there is an indication of a significant change since the last reporting date.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount and are recognised in profit or loss.

2.8 IMPAIRMENT OF ASSETS

At the end of each reporting period, the Association assesses whether there is any indication that the recoverable amount of an asset is less than its carrying amount. If any such indication exists, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount, resulting in an impairment loss. Impairment losses are recognised immediately in the profit and loss account, with the exception of losses on previously revalued tangible fixed assets, which are recognised in other comprehensive income to the extent of any previously recognised revaluation increase accumulated in equity in respect of that asset. Where the circumstances causing an impairment of an asset no longer apply, then the impairment is reversed through the profit and loss account, except for impairments on previously revalued tangible assets, which are treated as revaluation increases to the extent that the revaluation was recognised in equity.

The recoverable amount of tangible fixed assets, goodwill and other intangible fixed assets is the higher of the fair value less cost to sell of the asset and its value in use. The value in use of these assets is the present value of the cash flows expected to be derived from those assets. This is determined by reference to the present value of the future cash flows of the cash generating unit to which the assets belong.

2.9 DEBTORS

Short-term debtors are measured at transaction price, less any impairment. Loans receivable are measured initially at fair value, net of transaction costs, and are measured subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment.

2.10 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

In the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Association's cash management.

2.11 CREDITORS

Short-term creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other financial liabilities, including bank loans, are measured initially at fair value, net of transaction costs, and are measured subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.12 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Association has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 "Basic Financial Instruments" of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Association's Balance Sheet when the Association becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

BASIC FINANCIAL ASSETS

Basic financial assets, which include trade and other debtors, cash and bank balances, are initially measured at their transaction price (adjusted for transaction costs except in the initial measurement of financial assets that are subsequently measured at fair value through profit and loss) and are subsequently carried at their amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any provision for impairment, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest.

Discounting is omitted where the effect of discounting is immaterial. The Association's cash and cash equivalents, trade and most other debtors due within the operating cycle fall into this category of financial instruments.

IMPAIRMENT OF FINANCIAL ASSETS

At the end of each reporting period financial assets measured at amortised cost are assessed for objective evidence of impairment. If an asset is impaired the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount and the present value of the estimated cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. The impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

Financial assets are impaired when events, subsequent to their initial recognition, indicate the estimated future cash flows derived from the financial asset(s) have been adversely impacted. The impairment loss will be the difference between the current carrying amount and the present value of the future cash flows at the asset(s) original effective interest rate.

If there is a favourable change in relation to the events surrounding the impairment loss then the impairment can be reviewed for possible reversal. The reversal will not cause the current carrying amount to exceed the original carrying amount had the impairment not been recognised. The impairment reversal is recognised in the profit or loss.

FINANCIAL LIABILITIES

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the Association after the deduction of all its liabilities.

Basic financial liabilities, which include trade and other creditors, bank loans and other loans are initially measured at their transaction price (adjusting for transaction costs except in the initial measurement of financial liabilities that are subsequently measured at fair value through profit and loss). When this constitutes a financing transaction, whereby the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest, discounting is omitted where the effect of discounting is immaterial.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at their amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods and services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Trade creditors are classified as current liabilities if the payment is due within one year. If not, they represent non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are initially recognised at their transaction price and subsequently are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Discounting is omitted where the effect of discounting is immaterial.

DERECOGNITION OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

DERECOGNITION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS

Financial assets are derecognised when their contractual right to future cash flow expire, or are settled, or when the Association transfers the asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to another party. If significant risks and rewards of ownership are retained after the transfer to another party, then the Association will continue to recognise the value of the portion of the risks and rewards retained.

DERECOGNITION OF FINANCIAL LIABILITIES

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Association's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

3. JUDGMENTS IN APPLYING ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

The preparation of these financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses. Judgements and estimates are continually

evaluated and are based on historical experiences and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The Association makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates, will by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of the assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

USEFUL ECONOMIC LIVES OF TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

The annual depreciation charge depends primarily on the estimated lives of each type of assets and estimates of residual values. The Association regularly reviews these asset lives and change them as necessary to reflect current thinking on remaining lives in light of prospective economic utilisation and physical condition of the assets concerned. Changes in asset lives can have a significant impact on depreciation and amortisation charges for the period. Detail of the useful lives is included in the accounting policies.

PROVIDING FOR DOUBTFUL DEBTS

The Association makes an estimate of the recoverable value of trade and other debtors. The Association uses estimates based on historical experience in determining the level of debts, which the Association believes will not be collected. These estimates include such factors as the current credit rating of the debtor, the ageing profile of debtors and historical experience. Any significant reduction in the level of default on payments or other significant improvements that resulted in a reduction in the level of bad debt provision would have a positive impact on the operating results. The level of provision required is reviewed on an on-going basis.

GOING CONCERN

The Management Committee have assessed whether the use of the going concern assumption is appropriate in preparing these financial statements. The Committee have made this assessment for a period of one year from the date of approval of these financial statements.

The Management Committee have concluded that there are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Association to continue as a going concern.

4. SURPLUS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION

The operating surplus is stated after charging:

	2024 (€)	2023 (€)
Operating lease rentals	42,000	42,000
Pension costs	65,045	65,913
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	39,895	38,165

5. EMPLOYEES

Staff costs were as follows:

	2024 (€)	2023 (€)
Wages and salaries	672,425	649,121
Employer's PRSI	73,702	70,688
Pension costs	65,045	65,913
	811,172	785,722

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2024 (No.)	2023 (No.)
Administration staff	8	8

Key management personnel of the Association comprise eight members of the management committee (including voluntary members), the Chief Executive Officer, Director of Events and CPD and the Director of Communications and Advocacy. Total remuneration paid to key management personnel including pension costs during the year totalled €463,093 (2023: €469,068).

6. TAXATION

	2024 (€)	2023 (€)
CORPORATION TAX		
Current tax on surplus for the year.....	5,441	1,883
TOTAL CURRENT TAX	5,441	1,883
DEFERRED TAX	-	-
TOTAL DEFERRED TAX	-	-
TAXATION ON PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES ...	5,441	1,883

FACTORS AFFECTING TAX CHARGE FOR THE YEAR

As the Association is engaged in mutual trading, income received from members in respect of mutual transactions is not liable to tax, whilst any expenditure related to such transactions is not tax deductible. A mutual trading concern is taxable in the ordinary way in respect of any income not derived from its mutual activities. The Association's current and prior year surpluses were generated from its mutual activities and are therefore exempt from income tax.

The tax assessed for the year is lower than (2023 - lower than) the standard rate of income tax in Ireland of 20% (2023 - 20%). The differences are explained below:

	2024 (€)	2023 (€)
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	109,423	31,766
EFFECTS OF:		
Income tax at 20% on medical insurance of €1,857 (2023: €1,883).....	1,857	1,883
Adjustments to tax charge in respect of prior periods	3,584	-
TOTAL TAX CHARGE FOR THE YEAR	5,441	1,883

FACTORS THAT MAY AFFECT FUTURE TAX CHARGES

There were no factors that may affect future tax charges.

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	FIXTURES & FITTINGS (€)
COST OR VALUATION	
At 1 January 2024	209,512
Additions	11,112
At 31 December 2024	220,624
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 January 2024.....	103,748
Charge for the year on owned assets	39,895
At 31 December 2024	143,643
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 December 2024	76,981
At 31 December 2023	105,764

8. DEBTORS

	2024 (€)	2023 (€)
DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR		
Amounts owed by related parties (<i>Note 15</i>)	98,259	115,394
	98,259	115,394
DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
Trade debtors	176,199	150,157
Prepayments and accrued income	34,849	63,588
Income tax	25	3,396
	211,073	217,141

Amounts due from related party pertains to advances that are unsecured, interest free and are repayable on any day during the month of January but no later than the 31st day of January of each year from 2021 to 2030 inclusive.

9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 (€)	2023 (€)
Trade creditors	62,947	61,264
Taxation and social insurance	44,223	42,680
Other creditors	-	9,062
Accruals	23,718	27,865
Deferred income	94,060	150,190
	224,948	291,061

10. LEGAL AND PROFESSIONAL FEES

The legal and professional fees charge of €41,179 includes tax advice pertaining to the tax status of dental associates and hygienists, obtaining an opinion on the VAT treatment and Irish and EU law implications of the provision of surgery facilities under the Dental Associate Agreement, outsourced payroll processing services and advice on improving dental care for access for medical card patients.

11. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

	2024 (€)	2023 (€)
FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Financial assets measured at fair value through profit or loss	816,280	726,425
Financial assets measured at amortised cost ...	314,773	332,535
	1,131,053	1,058,960
FINANCIAL LIABILITIES		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	224,948	291,061

Financial assets measured at fair value through profit or loss comprise cash and cash equivalents.

Financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise of trade debtors, amounts owed by related parties and other debtors.

Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost comprise of trade creditors, amounts owed to related parties and other creditors.

12. RESERVES**PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT**

Profit and loss account comprises the cumulative net funds comprising all historical surpluses less deficits since inception.

13. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The Association operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Association in an independently administered fund. Pension costs amounted to €65,045 (2023: €65,913).

No amount was included in accruals at the balance sheet date or at the comparative balance sheet date in respect of pension contributions to the defined contribution pension scheme. The Association had no further commitments in respect of pension commitments at the end of the year (or the previous year), other than those included in the balance sheet.

14. COMMITMENTS UNDER OPERATING LEASES

At 31 December 2024, the Association had future minimum lease payments due under non-cancellable operating leases for each of the following periods:

	2024 (€)	2023 (€)
Not later than 1 year	42,000	42,000
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	168,000	168,000
Later than 5 years	42,000	84,000
	252,000	294,000

15. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Irish Dental Association ("the Association") is related to Boynevale Dental Property Limited ("the company") through common directors, trustees, and a committee member. The Association is a trade union and is registered with the Registrar of Friendly Societies.

The Association and the company meet the definition of related parties under Section 33 of FRS 102 as the sole registered shareholder of the company being Dr Kieran O'Connor holds the company's issued share capital on behalf of the members of the Association.

The company charged rent of €42,000 to the Association during the financial year.

The Association discharged business expenditure of €114,865 on behalf of the company during the financial year.

Receivables due to the Association totalling €132,000 were collected by the company during the financial year of which €90,000 had been transferred to the Association by the balance sheet date.

The company owed €98,259 to the Association at the balance sheet date which is unsecured, interest free and repayable on any day during the month of January but no later than the 31st day of January of each year from 2021 to 2030 inclusive.

16. POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

There have been no significant events affecting the association since the financial year end.

17. CONTROLLING PARTY

There is no one individual controlling party.

18. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Management Committee approved these financial statements for issue on



AGM 2024 MOTIONS

MOTION 1

“That the audited accounts for the Irish Dental Association and report thereon for the year ended December 31, 2024, be accepted.”

PROPOSED BY Dr Will Rymer | SECONDED BY Dr Rory Boyd

MOTION 2

“That this meeting appoints Crowe, chartered accountants, as auditors to hold office until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting at which accounts are laid.”

PROPOSED BY Dr Barney Murphy | SECONDED BY Dr Kieran O’Connor

MOTION 3

“That this Annual General Meeting authorises the Management Committee to fix the remuneration of the auditors.”

PROPOSED BY Dr Will Rymer | SECONDED BY Dr Rory Boyd

MOTION 4

That this AGM proposes student representatives on the Council of the Irish Dental Association: Rule 8.1 “Representative Members, vis:... Up to three students registered at dental schools in Ireland, recognised by the Dental Council, and nominated by such dental student organisations as may be recognised by the Council of the Irish Dental Association and invited to make such a nomination in any given year.”

PROPOSED BY Dr Will Rymer | SECONDED BY Dr Rory Boyd



MOTION 5

On the sixth anniversary of the publication of the National Oral Health Policy “Smile agus Slainte” which envisages majors changes for the Public Dental Service, our members and our patients, the HSE Group of the IDA calls on the Minister of Health to instruct the HSE to meaningfully engage with the Irish Dental Association on the future positioning of Public Oral Health Services within the HSE Centre and the developing Regional Health Authorities.

PROPOSED BY HSE Dental Surgeons Group Committee

MOTION 6

Today, stakeholder involvement in the delivery of dentistry is expanding. Increasingly, shareholders and other abstruse bodies will influence the delivery in addition to known stakeholders. This AGM reaffirms the Association’s commitment to clinical decision-making for all practitioners, which is independent of third-party handicap, in serving the best interest of patients.

PROPOSED BY Dr Martin Holohan | **SECONDED BY** Dr Eamon Croke



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