

**Motion Name:** Subsidized Dental Care Access for University of Bristol Students through UOB dental School.

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***Background:***

Securing registration with an NHS dental practice in Bristol poses a significant challenge for students. Many struggle to locate accessible services, resorting to costly private practices. This financial strain exacerbates health care barriers for both domestic and international students. In response to these challenges, this proposal advocates for subsidized or NHS standard level dental care through the University Dental School. Prioritizing oral health aligns with the university's commitment to holistic student well-being, leveraging existing resources to relieve financial burdens and enhance overall health and academic success.

***Purpose:***

To promote the welfare of Bristol students by addressing the challenges in accessing affordable dental care. This motion aligns with Bristol SU's charitable objects, specifically advancing education by ensuring students have access to essential health services. By advocating for subsidized dental care, we aim to relieve financial burdens on students, contributing to their overall well-being. This proposal underscores the SU's role as an effective representative channel, championing a crucial aspect of student life and reinforcing our commitment to holistic student development.

***Actions:***

1. **Research and Budgetary Considerations:** Conduct research, in collaboration with Bristol SU, to establish the required costs for implementing the program. Use this information during the lobbying process, providing a basis for budgetary considerations. This may involve estimating costs for subsidization, additional staffing requirements (if any), and potential revenue streams to offset expenses.
2. **Lobby the University to establish a Partnership or Subsidization Program:** The SU should Advocate for the University Dental School to collaborate with the NHS or establish a subsidization program to offer dental care services at reduced rates for University of Bristol students.
3. **Communication and Awareness Campaign:** If actions 1 and 2 are successfully completed, the SU should collaborate with the university to launch a comprehensive communication and awareness campaign. This should inform students about the availability of subsidized dental care services, detailing eligibility criteria, costs, and the benefits of regular dental check-ups.
4. **Monitor and Evaluate:** If previous actions are successfully completed, Bristol SU Officers to collaborate with the University to establish a monitoring and evaluation framework. Regularly assess the impact of subsidized dental care services on students' well-being, gather feedback, and adjust as needed to ensure the continued success of the program.