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Copied to Jane Ellison MP

Dear Earl Howe,

Thank you very much for your letter Ref P000000534274 and the effort that you have put into researching this enquiry. However there has been some confusion as to the nature of my question.

I am an orthodontist who has been practicing for over 10 years and work with my father who is one of the most experience orthodontist in the country. We are concerned that the practice of modern orthodontics is based on poor science and is not evidence based. Our attempts to engage the profession in scientific debate have been spurned and the normal response to a scientific challenge has not been followed.

Even though 30% of the population of this country is being treating without knowing the cause of the problem, the British Orthodontic Society has refused to enter into a debate on this issue. The GDC, which is entrusted by government to oversee the dental monopoly in the interests of the public, has failed to act as an independent regulator and has dismissed our concerned without listening to our evidence.

I believe that I could prove that contemporary orthodontic practice is not evidence based, is lagging behind the science and is an ineffective use of money in these difficult financial times. I suspect that powerful vested interests within the BOS that extend into the GDC are trying to prevent painful and difficult change to an exceptionally well paid section of the NHS.

My enquiry is for you to ask the GDC why they have not listened to my concerns and why they feel that they can not countenance a long-overdue repeat of the debate of 1936 on the cause of crooked teeth. It would be my pleasure to expand on this if you have 30min to spare.

Best wishes,

Mike Mew, BDS MSC

PS My Father sends his regards, he knew your Father at the RAC and raced against Piers Courage.