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By email.

9 May 2022

The European Qualifications (Health and Social Care Professions) (Amendment etc.) (EU EXIT) Regulations 2022 - Dental vocational training regulations.

I wrote on 6 January responding to a number of questions the Committee had with respect to the above UK instrument. In my letter I confirmed that the instrument “seeks to exempt holders of primary dentistry qualifications from Switzerland and European Economic Area countries, from the requirement to undertake post-graduate vocational training as a condition of accessing direct employment with, or the right to deliver services on behalf of, NHS bodies in England through inclusion on a list of eligible practitioners established under the National Health Service (Performers List) (England) Regulations 2013.”

In my letter of 6 January I also offered to update the Committee following discussions between the Scottish and UK Governments on how we propose to proceed in Scotland, given that the exemption described above only applies in relation to vocational training requirements in England (noting that this is referred to as “foundation training” in England). The intention is to amend the National Health Service (Vocational Training for General Dental Practice) (Scotland) Regulations 2004 to exempt those dentists holding a relevant European diploma from being required to do vocational training in Scotland.

In making this change the intention is to ensure that NHS dentistry in Scotland continues to benefit from an excellent resource of well qualified dentists with this particular qualification, and is not disadvantaged in terms of future recruitment exercises compared with other parts of the UK.

HUMZA YOUSAF

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