Dear Sir/Madam,

**Appointment of Community Dental Services-CIC (CDS-CIC) to deliver free Oral Health Improvement Services within Slough.**

Slough Borough Council is pleased to announce CDS-CIC has been commissioned to deliver free targeted oral health promotion services within Slough, working to reduce oral health inequalities and improve oral health through evidence-based interventions.

CDS-CIC’s core OHI role is to disseminate evidence-based, best-practice oral care advice and guidance to professionals working in health, social care, and early years settings, bringing increased awareness of the importance of good mouth care and how it impacts on general health and quality of life. We play a key role in tackling oral health inequalities and, increasingly, to meet the oral care demands of an ageing population.

Slough Oral Health Improvement team will provide:

* Oral health training sessions for health and non-health professionals working across the whole life course from birth to end of life which will include sharing oral health key messages, resources available and the importance of prevention at home.
* Support to care homes and care home managers to implement NICE guidelines and CQC guidance, providing ongoing support to care facilities and their residents, families, and carers.
* Supervised toothbrushing in targeted settings, a preventative programme designed to address oral health inequalities by helping young children to develop positive oral health skills for life.

Evidence-based studies have found that:

* Daily application of fluoride toothpaste to teeth reduces the incidence and severity of tooth decay in children.
* Children in more deprived areas are less likely to brush their teeth at least twice daily.
* Brushing each day at school over a two-year period is effective for preventing tooth decay and can establish life-long behaviour to promote oral health.

The service will commence its delivery in October 2024. As our service mobilises in the coming weeks, our CDS-CIC colleagues would welcome your support to establish local partnerships, develop and share information relating to the service delivered by the **Slough Oral Health Improvement Team.**

We look forward to working with you and delivering an evidence-based oral health programme to improve the health and wellbeing of the community in Slough.

Sophie Burton, Oral Health Improvement Manager, is the direct contact for the service. For more information on our training and programmes please contact Sophie via Sophie.Burton@cds-cic.co.uk 07818560615 [www.communitydentalservices.co.uk](http://www.communitydentalservices.co.uk)

Alternatively, if you would like to discuss any issues in relation to CDS-CIC and the Oral Health Improvement Service with a Slough Borough Council colleague please email: Tandeep.Badesha@Slough.Gov.uk

Yours faithfully,
Community Dental Services