EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations make provision for the vocational training for dentists. They make provision as to what is meant by vocational training and the satisfactory completion of vocational training, how vocational training numbers are granted and how appeals against their refusal are conducted. They replace the provisions of regulations 6, 7 and 8 of National Health Service (General Dental Services) (Scotland) Regulations 1996 ("the 1996 Regulations") which previously dealt with those matters and also make consequential amendments to the 1996 Regulations.

Regulation 2 prescribes how an application for a vocational training number is made to NHS Education for Scotland, which is a Special Health Board, what the evidence of satisfactory completion of vocational training or grounds upon which exemption is claimed is, the procedure for issuing a vocational training number and, if the application is refused, the requirement to notify the applicant of the appeal procedure.

Regulation 3 prescribes how vocational training is assessed against the competencies in the Schedule and how the assessment procedure and curriculum can be altered.

Regulation 4 creates the Dentists Vocational Training Appeal Body to which appeals against refusal to grant a vocational training number may be made.

Regulation 5 prescribes the procedure to be followed on such appeals.

Regulation 6 makes provision for the service of documents.

Regulation 7 makes consequential amendments to the 1996 Regulations

Regulation 8 makes provision for dentists who have already commenced, but not completed, vocational training under the 1996 Regulations, dentists who have completed vocational training under the 1996 Regulations but have not applied for a vocational training number, or dentists whose application for a vocational training number under the 1996 regulations has been refused and is the subject of an appeal.