

PRESS RELEASE



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DENTAL COLUMNIST ROBERT DONALD JOINS MDDUS BOARD

Well-known Scottish dentist and magazine columnist Robert Donald attended his first annual general meeting as an MDDUS board member when the UK-wide defence organisation convened its first AGM ever to be held in London.

The appointment of Donald as a non-executive director is a welcome addition to the organisation given his high profile in the profession.

Donald is a full-time general dental practitioner based in Nairn and is a previous chairman of the BDA's Scottish Dental Practice committee and currently sits on its executive. He is also an elected member of the UK General Dental practice committee and has served as Secretary of Highland LDC since 1990. He is a former director of Highland Dental Plan and a former chairman of Independent care plans (UK).

Donald is also a regular contributor to the dental press.

Speaking at the AGM, Donald said: "I am delighted to be involved with the MDDUS as a non-executive director as it expands its operations south of the border. Having been a member since qualification, I greatly appreciate the service that the union provides.

"Throughout my dental career I have been actively involved at local, national and UK level in striving to improve the terms and conditions of my GDP colleagues.

"My new role as non-executive director will enable me to continue to support my colleagues at a strategic level in the company at a time when the dental profession is coming under increasing pressure from outside agencies."

MDDUS held its one hundred and seventh AGM at its new London office at Pemberton Row, close to the capital's legal centre, which opened in February this year.

The move away from the traditional venue of its Glasgow headquarters reflects the latest membership figures for MDDUS which reveal that for the first time in its history, the majority of the organisation's GP members and just under 50% of all members are now based outside Scotland.

Gordon Dickson, chief executive, says: "We decided to hold the AGM in London to reflect the fact that the Union's membership numbers and market share south of the border continue to grow year-on-year.

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"As a result of that we have increased the facilities we offer to members from our new London base."

Dickson stressed the defence organisation was not turning its back on its Scottish roots, adding: "Our members – wherever they are based in the UK – deserve the very best advice and as the Scottish and English healthcare delivery systems are increasingly diverging, it is vital for us to have a major presence in both countries."

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For further information contact Colin Calder on 0141 616 2677 or 07850 510881.

Note to editors

MDDUS is a medical defence organisation providing access to professional indemnity and expert medicolegal advice for doctors, dentists and other healthcare professionals throughout the UK. For further information on MDDUS go to www.mddus.com.