Research Stages

- Primary Care Trust & Secondary Care Staff
- Service-Users
- NHS Dental Professionals

Baseline Qualitative Scoping: Current dental service issues

Construct Programme Budget (PB) to map expenditure for local NHS dental services

Form ‘Marginal Analysis’ (MA) Advisory Panel

Determine and weight the locally relevant decision-making criteria (‘Prioritisation Criteria’)

Identify areas within the dental budget for possible:
- Service growth (X)
- Resource release – produce same outcomes but with fewer resources (Y)
- Resource release – curtail or cease some areas of current dental spend (Z)

Review evidence Evaluate process

‘MA’ Advisory Panel makes recommendations:
1) Fund growth areas with new resources
2) Reallocate resources from Y to X
3) Trade-off decisions from Z to X if relative value of Z is deemed greater than X

Validity checks with stakeholders

Inform decision-making and resource allocation process

Research Approach

Action Research

Plan Act
Observe
Reflect

Research Methods

- Semi-structured interviews
- Focus Groups
- Questionnaires
- Field notes