

Grampian National Dental Inspection Programme

Report of the 2007/08 Survey of Primary 1 Children



Background

All young people should hope to enter adulthood with a healthy mouth. However, despite improvements in oral health over the last thirty years, many children in Scotland still suffer from dental decay and this sets the tone for a life of poor oral health.

Every year NHS Grampian undertakes a programme of oral inspections of children entering school in Primary 1 and children leaving school in Primary 7. In 2007/08 a total of 4,841 Primary 1 children were inspected for dental

disease, or 80% of Primary 1 children in Grampian. The Primary 7 data will be inspected and analysed next year.

The purpose of the inspection is to gather information to inform children and parents of their dental and oral health. This information is also used by NHS Grampian to target oral health promotion programmes effectively, in the geographic areas of greatest need.

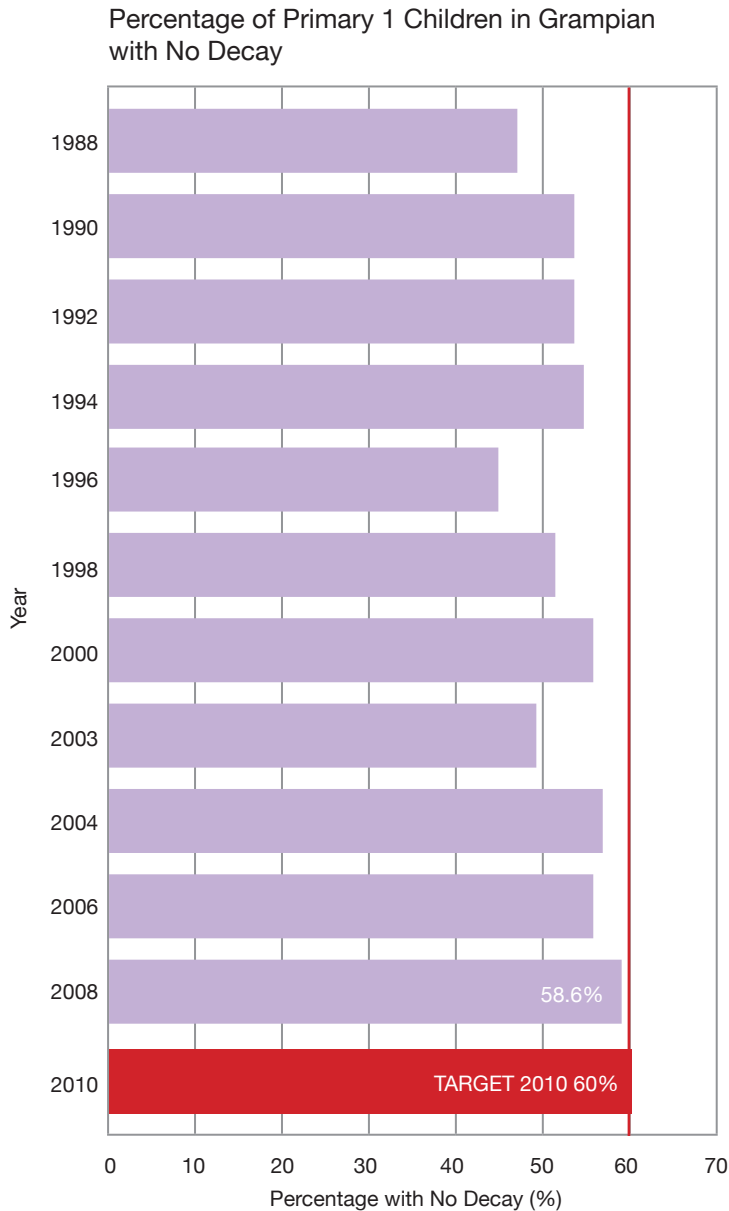
“ Best oral health ever recorded for Primary 1, however still room for improvement ... ”

Results

Grampian Primary 1's 1988 – 2008 (Detailed)

The results of the inspections have fluctuated over the years, however the 07/08 results are the best ever recorded, with 58.6% of Primary 1 children showing no signs of dental decay. This is just under

the national target of 60% to be achieved by 2010. However, there is still much room for improvement as over 500 children started school with dental abscesses and/or gross disease (very decayed teeth).

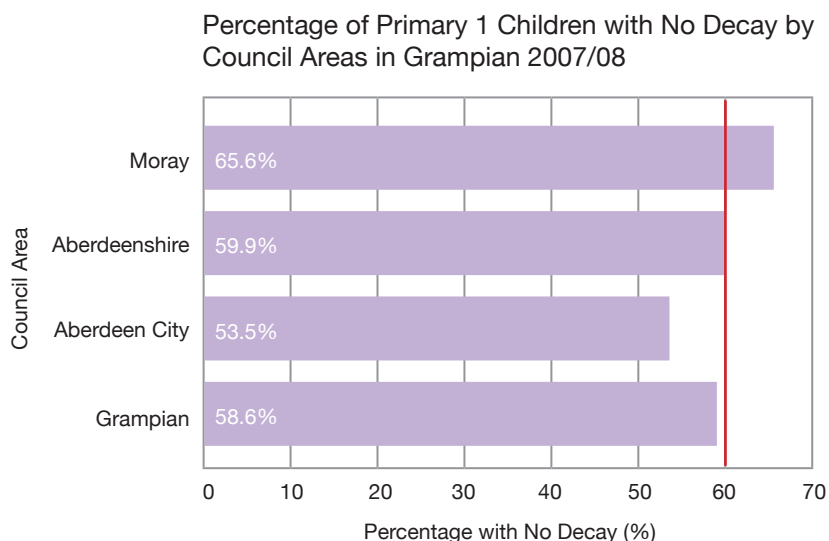


Primary 1 2007/08 Results by Local Authority (Basic)

The whole of Grampian recorded 58.6% of children with no dental disease, however there was significant discrepancies between the three geographic regions. Moray recorded the best results with 65.6% of children free of disease.

to be well below the national target, with 53.5% free of disease. It is anticipated that Aberdeenshire and Moray should reach the national target of 60% by 2010.

Aberdeenshire followed with 59.9% of children disease-free. Aberdeen City results continue



Child/parent letters

The dental inspections involve a simple assessment of the child’s mouth using a light, mirror and a ball-ended probe. Each child was then placed into one of three categories (A, B or C), depending on the severity of the condition of the mouth. Parents were issued a letter informing them of the state of their child’s oral health. Please see table below for interpretation of each letter.

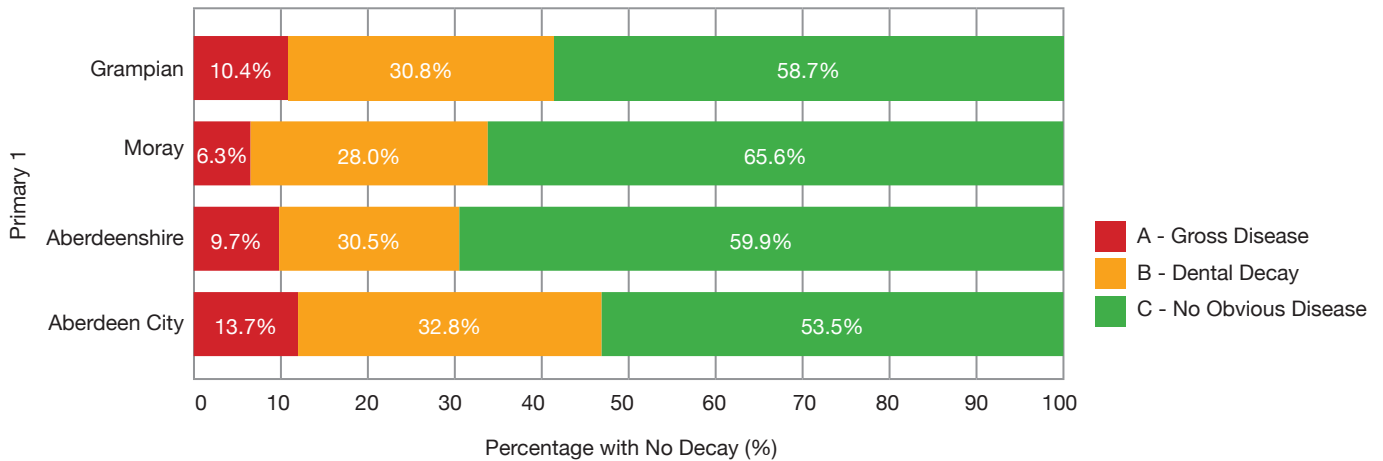
Out of all the children examined, 504 children started school with gross disease, with many of these children requiring urgent care due to infection/abscesses in the mouth.

	Letter A Gross Disease	Letter B Obvious Dental Decay	Letter C No Obvious Decay	Total
Description of disease	Abscesses and very decayed teeth	Obvious disease	No obvious disease	
Child needs	Urgent care some teeth removed	Fillings and routine care as soon as possible	Maintain routine care and regular check-ups	
Aberdeen City	216	519	846	1,581
Aberdeenshire	237	748	1,469	2,454
Moray	51	226	529	806
Grampian	504	1,493	2,844	4,841

The percentage of letters given out is shown by geographical area below. Aberdeen City again fared worse with over 13.7% of children starting school with gross disease.

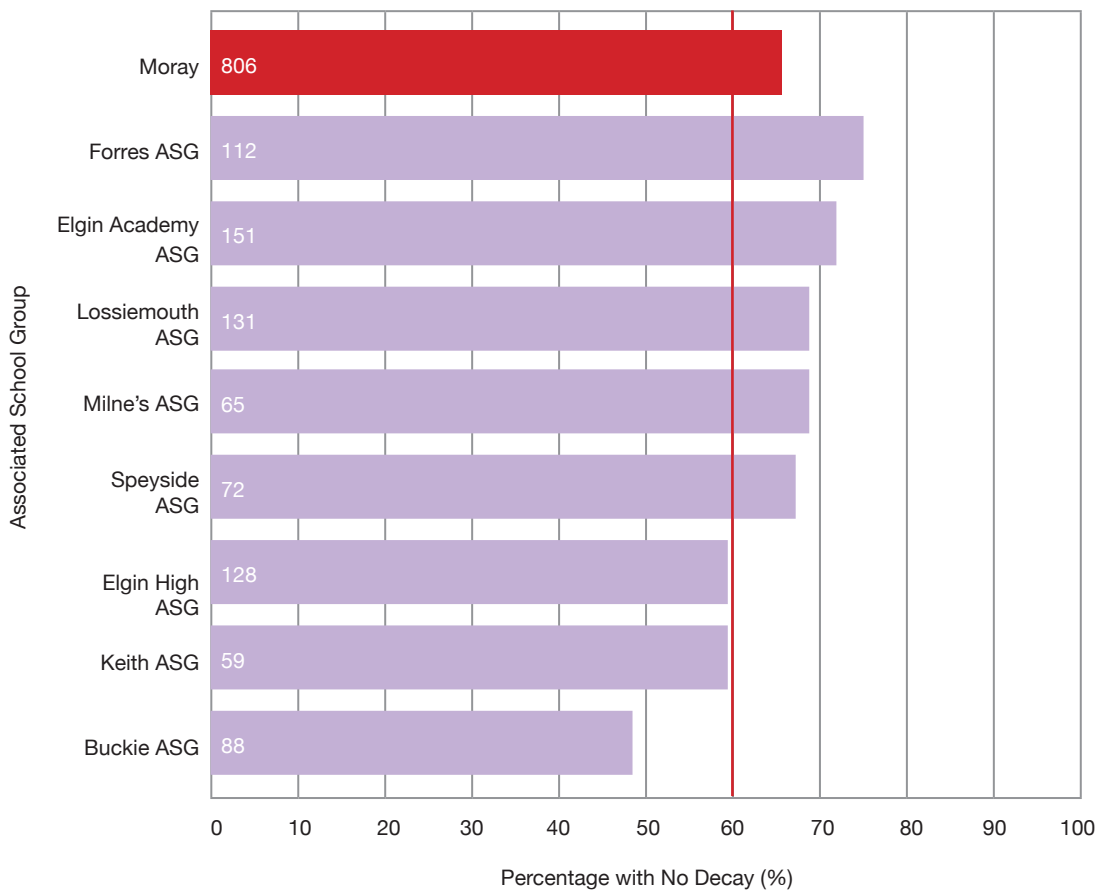
In Aberdeenshire the result was 9.7% and in Moray 6.3%.

Analysis of Category Letters by CHP and Grampian - 2007/08



The graphs below illustrate how the data is used to target disease programmes to those children with greatest need.

Percentage of P1 Children in Moray Associated School Groups with No Obvious Dental Decay - 2007/08



Percentage of P1 Children in Aberdeenshire Community School Networks with No Obvious Dental Decay - 2007/08

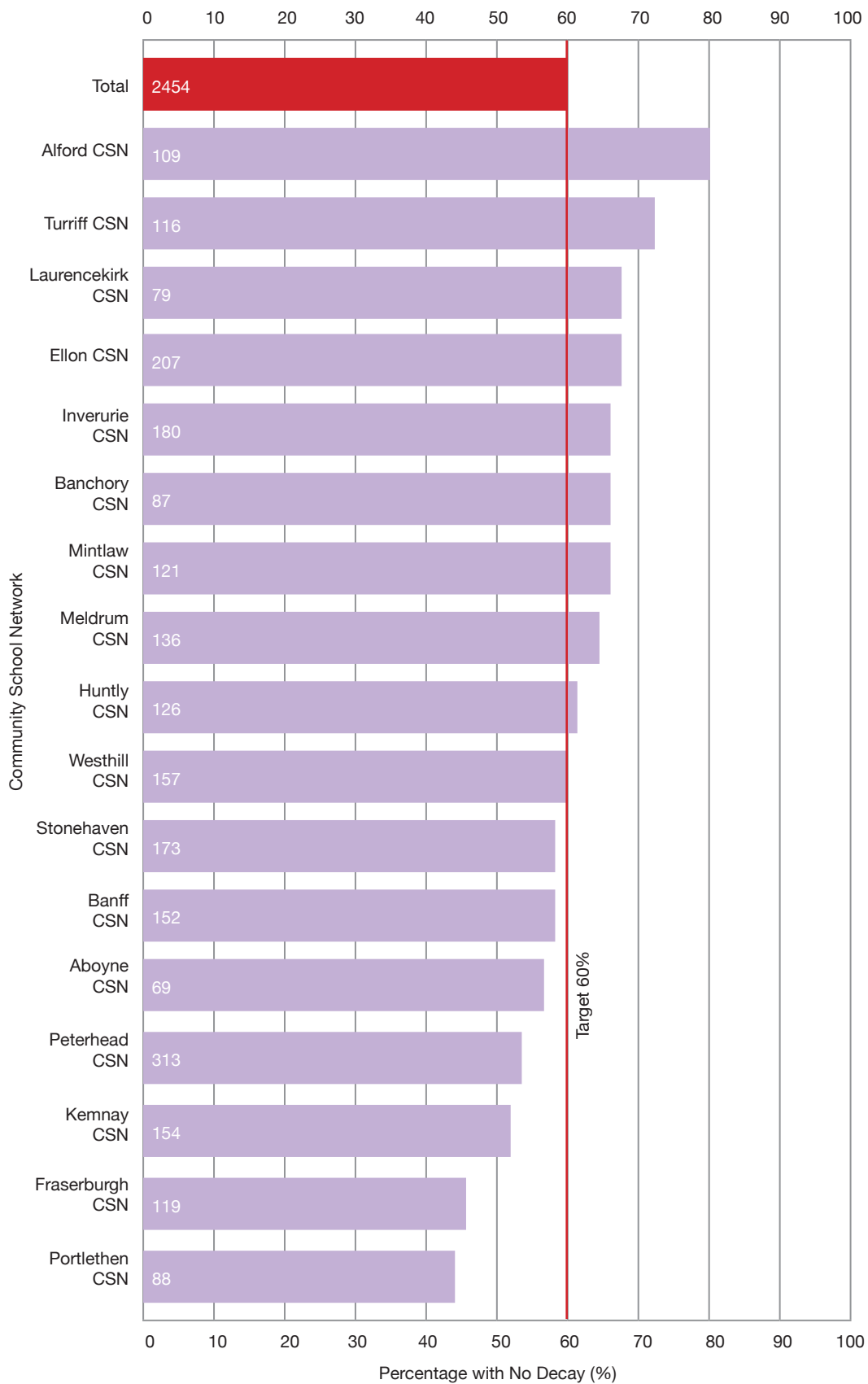
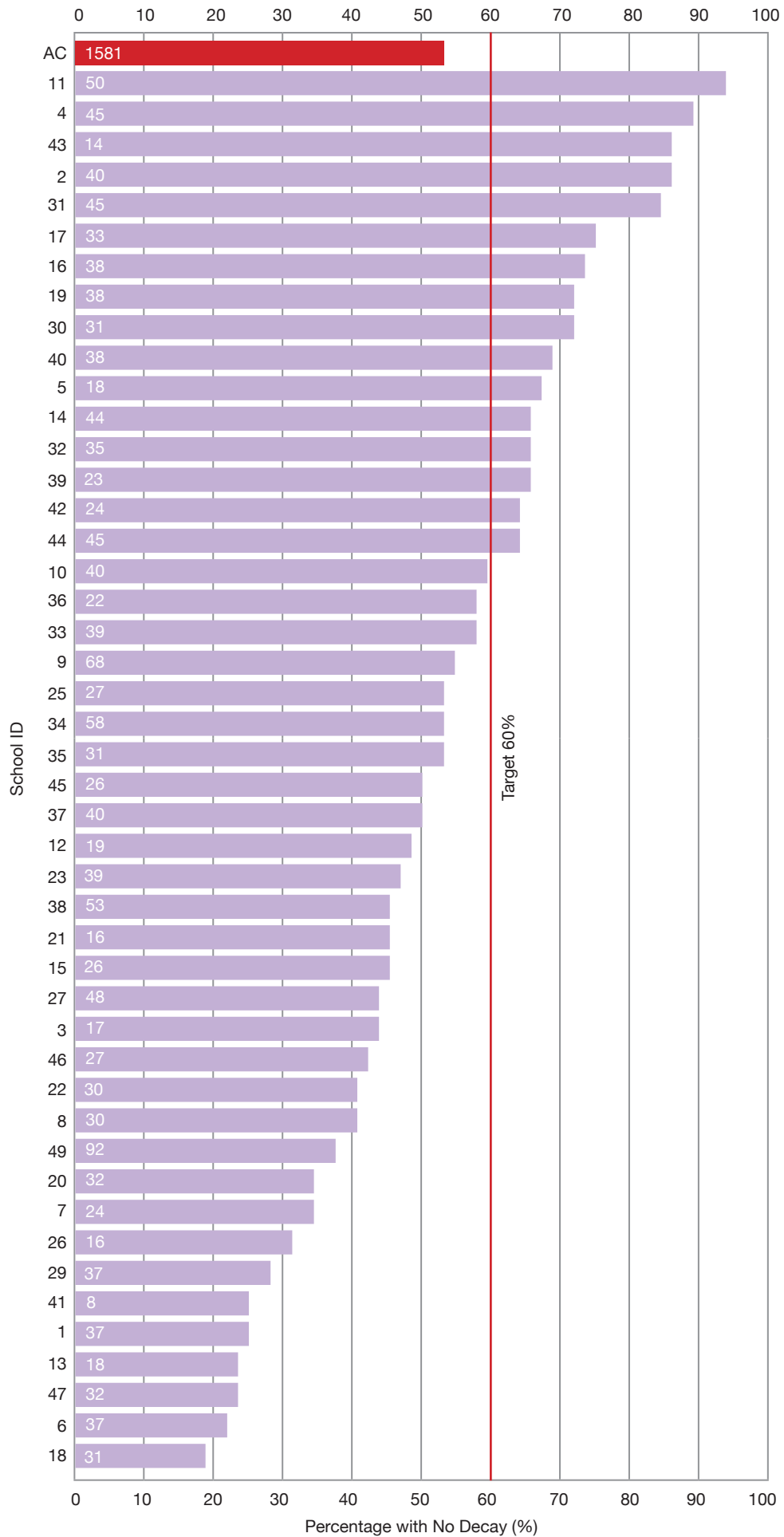


Figure inside bar = total number of children within the school examined for dental disease

Percentage of P1 Children in Aberdeen City with No Obvious Dental Decay - 2007/08



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The dental practices who conducted the inspections were:

Bayview Clinic, Banff
Fraserburgh Academy
Peterhead Academy
Ellon Health Clinic
Inverurie Academy
Gordon Schools, Huntly
Banchory Health Clinic
Alford Health Centre
Mackie Academy, Stonehaven
Mearns Academy, Laurencekirk
Bridge of Don Health Clinic
Dyce Health Centre
Mastrick Clinic
Northfield Clinic
Kincorth Clinic
Denburn Health Centre
Hilton Clinic
Spynie Hospital, Elgin

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