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1 September 2015

Cllr Colleen Harwood
Chair Health Scrutiny Committee
County Hall
West Bridgeford
Nottingham
NG2 7QP

SENT BY EMAIL

Cllr.colleen.harwood@nottscg.gov.uk

Dear Councillor Harwood

Contract expiry at Westwood 8-8 Centre, Bassetlaw

The Westwood 8-8 Centre is a small practice situated on Pelham Street, Manton, Worksop. It provides core GP services for its registered patients who can book an appointment or walk in; as well as an appointment/walk in service for "unregistered" patients. The walk in element of the service is very small with a maximum of 10 walk in appointments per day. Most of the unregistered patients come from other Worksop practices or are from outside the border of Bassetlaw, typically Rotherham or Derbyshire.

Danum Medical Services Limited currently holds the contract for Westwood, delivering primary medical services to both registered and unregistered patients from 8am to 8pm, seven days a week. The current contract expires on 31 March 2016. Therefore we are considering our options. It is proposed to establish a General Practice with services being provided from the same location. The current contract has been extended to allow time for the re-procurement.

The procurement of the new service is being led by NHS England but is being conducted jointly with NHS Bassetlaw CCG under the national co-commissioning primary care arrangements. It is intended through this exercise to procure a GP practice, from the same location, which operates throughout the core hours of 8.00am – 6.30pm Monday to Friday. This will ensure that the services provided at Westwood operate on the same basis as all other practices in the Bassetlaw area.

Outside of these hours i.e. 6.30pm – 8.00am, weekends and bank holidays patients will be able to access the out of hours GP service based at Bassetlaw Hospital. The new provider will be offered the opportunity to provide extended hours outside of core times under enhanced service arrangements consistent with other practices in Bassetlaw.

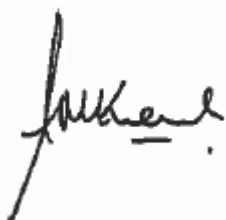
NHS England and the CCG are undertaking a patient engagement exercise to gather views of the future practice arrangements. Discussions were held with the Westwood patient Participation Group on the 4th August 2015 to explain the changes. The patients received this very positively on the basis that:

- it would provide clarity about the services being provided (there has been some confusion with patients thinking that Westwood was a walk in centre when the majority of appointments are bookable);
- because the majority of patients attending the service as “unregistered” patients are from neighbouring practices or outside of the area that those patients would make a decision about where they would want to receive their care in future by registering with the practice of their choice rather than attending on an ad hoc basis as a walk in
- there would be equity of provision with all patients registered in Bassetlaw having access to the same in hours and out of hours GP services

The attached report provides further details informing the Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the actions taken to date as well as a service description for the Westwood Centre. We would be happy to attend a meeting and discuss this with your members. A copy is also being provided to the Health Panel of Bassetlaw District Council.

We will continue to work closely with key stakeholders, patients and other partners during the transition to the new service to ensure that patients at the practice are kept informed and are able to continue to access high-quality, local GP services.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alison Knowles'.

Alison Knowles
Locality Director –NHS England North (Yorkshire & the Humber)

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Phil Mettam'.

Phil Mettam
Chief Officer – Bassetlaw CCG