

Port View Surgery

Patient Participation Group Minutes

Tuesday 12th Sep 2023 @ 5:30 – 6:30pm

Present: Jenny, David, Christina, Mandy, Trevor, Gail, Pauline, Rod, Marie, Margaret, Sarah Tina (Practice Manager), Peter (Chair), Dave (Secretary)

Apologies: Angie, Sally, Marilyn, Brenda, Jill, Tony, Julia and Roy

Minutes from the last meeting

Read and agreed.

Matters arising

None

Practice manager's update

Tina updated the group that the surgery has been successful in securing long term locum cover to work in house rather than remote cover. The locums include 2 newly qualified GP's and 2 local GP's. These additions will enable more face-to-face clinics rather than phone/video consultations. In addition, another locum GP has been recruited to cover Dr Harrison's extra work now he has become a salaried GP. This is working very well, and the staffing situation is looking better. Another recent addition is a highly trained advanced care practitioner paramedic.

The flu clinics are completely full with over 2,000 injections reserved with patients, 80% of whom booked on-line via the link sent in the text. Tina highlighted that pharmacies always receive their vaccines earlier than GP surgeries, and the reason for waiting until later in the year is to capture the most virulent months of the flu season as the vaccine is only viable for 6 months.

The surgery is not undertaking covid vaccines this year due to the staff numbers required to deliver this. Appointments in Saltash will be offered to PV patients soon by the NHS, eg as before at the football ground. Other options include Pharmacies and the Home Park Centre in Plymouth.

Tina updated the group on the PCN and that all practices have to be part of the network, which includes 7 local practices in SE Cornwall, covering some 80,000 patients. In order to take some pressure of the GP's approximately 40 Additional Roles Reimbursement Scheme (ARRS) staff will be available covering roles including Clinical Pharmacists, Social Prescribing Link Workers, Physician Associates, First Contact Physiotherapists and Community Paramedics. The patient advisors at the surgery are highly trained to signpost patients to the appropriate professional to suit their needs.

National GP survey

The results of the surgery were discussed and the various views of the members of the group were noted.

Social Prescribing

Mandy advised that the social prescribing agenda was going from strength to strength. More options will become available to suitable patients, eg benefits checks, housing issues, food vouchers and even yoga. Mandy is available in the community kitchen every Wednesday.

Health Action Group

Peter reminded the group that this was an alliance involving patients, councilors, health professionals and other interested parties to improve healthcare in Saltash and the surrounding area, following the closure of the in patient facilities at St Barnabas. The funding of a new facility, along with proceeds of the sale of other buildings was discussed, but not yet agreed in the NHS. Because of organisational changes in the ICB, the future role for Dr Sant is uncertain.

PPG funds

There is £130.00 remaining of the initial £250, and it was agreed that Peter will release a further £40 to fund a follow up article in the Saltash Observer. This will leave a balance of £90.00 for future expenditure.

AOB

The group welcomed Jenny Morley to the meeting and expressed their thanks to Tina and Mandy for all their hard work.

Date of next meeting - Tuesday 10th October 2023 @ 5.30pm in the Community Kitchen