

Port View Surgery – Patient Participation Group

Surgery Update April 2021

We have been planning regular meetings with Tina on behalf of the PPG and on Wednesday 21st April she provided the following update.

Staffing

Since the last update Dr. Charlton has retired and Dr. Colley has settled into her new post. One of the nursing team has left, but another is being recruited imminently.

Vaccination roll-out

The people being invited for their second doses had their first vaccination 8-9 weeks ago.

- 1800 people have received both doses, leaving a further 1200 second doses still to be administered (at the time of writing).
- All care home residents and staff have received both doses and this week sees the end of the current vaccination programme for housebound patients.

Surgery opening and appointments

A planned, gradual reopening of the surgery is underway. All staff have had both vaccinations and are undertaking regular lateral flow tests.

As well as providing staff and organising patients appointments for the local vaccination centres, Doctors have been working very long hours on some days to keep on top of the demand for other appointments, which are back to pre-COVID levels.

It has been noted that requests for help with minor ailments has considerably reduced, which could be a result of lock-down and COVID hygiene regulations helping to reduce the spread of colds and other winter ailments.

It is envisaged that:

- A maximum of 7 patients will be permitted in the waiting room; others will be asked to wait outside until there is space.
- Doctors will still be assessing patients by telephone initially, with face-to-face appointments being arranged where necessary.

In other news...

East Cornwall Primary Care Network (PCN),

To enable better local engagement this PCN is changing.

- Port View Surgery and the Saltash Health Centre remain part of this network along with practices in Liskeard, Torpoint, Looe and St Germans.
- The Launceston and Tamar Valley (Callington and Gunnislake) practices are forming a PCN of their own.

This change will not affect the Patient Participation Groups (PPG) of the practices. They will still be members of the East Cornwall PPG Umbrella Group, which meets regularly, online at present of course.

PPG Projects

Currently we are making plans to have a stand at the SaltFest on 31st July. This event resembles other town events such as the May Fair, which has been cancelled again this year owing to the pandemic restrictions.

We will provide an update soon.....watch this space!

Best wishes
Angie and Peter
on behalf of the PPG