

Abbey Field Medical Centre

Patient Group Minutes – Tuesday 9 April @ 9.30am

Attendees : Michael Campbell (Chair), Nicky Young, Vi Haddow, Steve McDonough, Ann Dow, Hazel Law, Mary Hills, Peter Herring.

NB Peter Herring has since resigned from the Patient Group

Apologies : Richard Iddon

Minutes of previous meeting were agreed.

Meetings : The timings of the meetings was discussed again. At the April meeting there was a particularly good turn out – people agreed that 1200 was the best time for the meeting. Therefore the June meeting has been moved to 1200.

Doctors : Dr Wilbraham will retire in May – she will be very much missed by both the Abbey Field Team and the patients. Dr Sidhu has returned from maternity leave which is great. One of our Registrars, Dr Britto, has agreed to stay on with us once he is qualified in June 2024. Dr Britto has already received lots of positive feedback so he will be a much welcomed addition to the Clinical Team.

Nursing Team : Linda, HCA, has now retired and therefore we have trained Chloe as a Phlebotomist to provide some much needed additional appointments.

We are also developing both an Asthma/COPD team and a Diabetes team. The Asthma team is; Leslie, Becky, Barry, Andreia, Lauren and Amanda. The Diabetes team is; Lianne, Sarah, Hollie, Linda D, Amanda and Ella. Currently Becky is the main person trained on Womens Health. Becky can do implants and coils as well as advise on menopause/HRT.

Administration & Reception : There have no been any changes in these teams.

List Size : Our list size is now 21673 which is an increase of 263 since we last met. In tandem with this all other work also increases.

Garden : The garden project under the management of Abberton Rural Training (ART) & C360 continues to grow with more and more volunteers joining

Heart of Greenstead : Currently we are not sure what is happening with the Heart of Greenstead project and whether indeed there will be a new surgery. However we are working with Colchester City Council to explore all options as it is recognised that more space is required to deliver more services.

On Line Consultations : The “Contact Us On Line” button has now been made more prominent on our web site:-

<https://www.abbeyfieldmedicalcentre.co.uk/>

The phone lines promote this method of contacting the practice for non-emergency appointments. If all the appointments for the day are gone patients are also directed to the web site.

All the messages received via Contact Us On Line are triaged in the normal way. In many instances a clinician can respond back to a patient without any need to speak to them – this is proving an extremely efficient way of managing appointments. If a clinician does need to review a patient they are given an appointment

Car Park : Building work on the Pharmacy has commenced and this has meant that several car parking spaces are being taken up as the builders compound at the moment adding to the pressure on the car park.

Social Prescribing : We have now employed our own Social Prescriber, Becky Chapman. Becky previously worked at CVST but is now employed directly. Her normal working days will be Tuesdays & Wednesdays and she will work across all the sites.

Weight Management : Daley Thompson and Gavin Sunshine are working with us to run a weight management/exercise programme. So far this is proving very popular – we are hoping the results enable them to leverage the funding to roll this out more widely.

Patient Experience : Both Vi and Ann are very keen to help support Patient Experience in Secondary Care however, presently there does not appear to be any formal committee for this purpose.

AP Nicky to contact Anthony West & Laura TaylorGreen to see if they can link Vi and Ann with the necessary people

Meeting Ended 09.45am