

## MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL PPG MEETING HELD ON 11 MAY 2021

1. **Present:** JL, ET, CHi, CHe, JM, SC, JR

2. **Apologies:** ST, RC

CHi informed the meeting that JW has resigned from the PPG. CHi acknowledged JW's valuable contribution to the group over many years.

3. **Welcome**

JL welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting. CHi thanked JL and ET for arranging our fourth virtual meeting during the COVID-19 pandemic, and keeping PPG members informed and involved.

4. **Staff Update**

ET informed the meeting that Registrar AA has joined the Practice team.

Dr RS will return from maternity leave in October.

The Practice has continued to provide placements for years 1 and 2 University of Leeds Medical Students. Since April, sessions have been delivered virtually by Dr SA. The Year 2 rotation starting in June, is planned to be face-to-face, in Practice, where the students will get an opportunity to sit in patient consultations (subject to full consent being obtained from the patient). We look forward to welcoming the students to our team.

5. **COVID-19 Vaccination Programme Update**

JL reported that the Mast Primary Care Network vaccination programme has been a huge success. 15,642 patients will have received vaccinations from the end of December until the end of May. JL commended patients, staff and volunteers for their support, dedication and commitment throughout the programme.

PPG members endorsed the success of the programme, and thanked the Practice Team.

JL said that everyone at the Practice appreciated the many messages of support and uplifting comments from patients and relatives.

Now that the highest risk groups have been vaccinated, the Practice will focus on resuming clinics, long-term condition checks, and offering more face-to-face appointments.

Three extra Phlebotomy clinics are being held each week (Monday, Tuesday and Thursday morning) to reduce the backlog.

6. **Primary Care Network (PCN) and Workforce**

JL informed the meeting that the five PCN Practices (Dearne Valley, Kirkheaton and Lepton, Kirkburton, Shepley and Skelmanthorpe) have formed a limited company – The Mast Health and Care Partnership Limited. The PCN will be CQC registered and funded by NHS Kirklees CCG/NHS England. JL is Lead Manager for the Network. She said that each Practice would retain their own unique identity. As a Health Care Partnership, there will be great opportunities to optimise financial and staffing resources, offer a wider range of services and evolve.

## **7. Extended Access**

Extended access operates at the practice out of core hours from 6.30pm to 8.00pm on Tuesday and Wednesday.

## **8. Any Other Business**

### **Hearing Aids**

SC enquired about the termination of the InHealth Hearing Aid Contract. JL said that InHealth have agreed to resolve issues for a three year period for existing patients. New referrals will be made to a NHS qualified provider, such as Specsavers or Scrivens. JL agreed to update the Practice website about the changes.

### **Ear Syringing**

SC asked whether ear syringing was still suspended. JL said that it was suspended, for the time being.

### **Message Facility – SystmOnline**

SC asked why the message facility on SystmOnline had been disabled. JL explained the reason was to streamline requests through e-Consult, which has a triage facility, and has everything in one place.

## **9. Date and time of next meeting**

JL said that our next meeting will be a face-to-face meeting – date to be arranged. This was welcomed by everyone present.

**Post-meeting Note: Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 14 September at 2.00pm in the Board Room, Kirkburton Health Centre.**

The meeting ended at 14.40.