

**HEREWARD GROUP PRACTICE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP (PPG) MEETING  
HELD AT THE PRACTICE ON TUESDAY 8 OCTOBER AT 6.15 PM.**

**1. PRESENT**

Mr B Sadler (Chair), Mr R Casboul, Mrs J Richardson, Mr M Wright, Mrs M Wright, Dr I Wheatley (Partner), Mrs D Galloway (Practice Manager), Ms K Petrova, Ms R Roulstone.

**2. APOLOGIES**

Mr T Reacher, Mrs J Reacher, Mr R Rose, Mrs K Dolby, Mrs P Howes..

**3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

These were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

The Group sent its condolences to Robert Rose whose wife recently passed away. Mr Sadler agreed to send a suitable card from the Group.

**4. PATIENT APPOINTMENTS/RECRUITMENT UPDATE**

Dr Wheatley briefed the Group on the Practice's plans to join Lakeside Healthcare .Lakeside Heathcare is a new type of NHS Super General Practice which has an established presence in local towns such as Stamford, Corby, Oundle, Kettering, Rushden, Eaton Socon and St Neots.

Dr Wheatley felt that General Practice had changed dramatically over the past five years and there is a reluctance for new GPs to become Partners and take on all the responsibilities of running a small business as well seeing patients and taking responsibility for their care. The need for the Practice to develop its own strategy, maximize its income and ensure it meets exacting regulatory requirements had pointed to joining such an organization as Lakeside where these tasks can be undertaken by skilled staff operating across a number of Practices.

Lakeside is establishing itself not only as a primary care provider but also as a community provider of a range of GP clinics providing services such as minor surgery .Whilst Practice patients will see little change in the short term it is intended that they will have access to these services as an alternative to hospital visits in the future.

Dr Wheatley confirmed that Partners had collectively seen the benefits of joining such an organization where support functions such as HR and IT can share expertise and resource .In addition such an organization is felt to be an attractive employer with its ability to provide more career opportunities for clinical and non clinical staff.

Discussions are at an advanced stage and it is anticipated that a formal announcement will be made in the next few weeks.

Dr Wheatley and Mrs Galloway briefed the Group on the new extended hours arrangements for local practices which have recently been announced by South Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). They cover the hours between 6.30 pm-8.00 pm weekdays and time on Saturdays and Sundays. They also include appointments on bank holidays and across Easter, Christmas and New Year. Patients should book through their local practice and will be seen within hubs located in Bourne, Stamford Spalding and Market Deeping. The appointments are pre bookable and not for urgent “on the day” issues.

Waiting times for routine appointments have been reduced to around 2 weeks.

Dr Wong will shortly leave the Practice .An advert for a replacement has not to date produced any response.

## **5. GP ALLIANCE**

Nothing to report .This has rather been overtaken by the plans to join Lakeside.

## **6. DASHBOARD INDICATORS**

It was felt that these were no longer of interest to the Group.

## **7. GENERAL PRACTICE ISSUES AND FEEDBACK**

It was felt that this had already been covered under other agenda topics.

## **8. MEETINGS ATTENDED**

The Chair who is also the Chair of the local PPG Cluster Group updated the meeting on the recent meetings he had attended. These included sessions on Mental Health and well-being and diabetes .There was a discussion on a proposed amnesty on unwanted drugs held by patients and the potential cost of disposal to the Practice.

## **9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Mrs Galloway updated the Group on the Practice’s work in moving towards achieving the Carers award .

Mr Sadler asked Ms Petrova whether there were any current issues between the Practice and Care Homes. Ms Petrova felt that as far as her Home was concerned , none existed and they enjoyed an excellent relationship through Dr Pears.

Mr Sadler raised the issue of a hole in the car park which Mrs Galloway stated was currently being repaired.

## **10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

Monday January 14 6.15 pm at the Practice.