

## Stakeholder Briefing

### Stockton NHS Healthcare Centre (Tithebarn)

March 2017

Stockton NHS Health Centre (Tithebarn) is a GP practice in Stockton which delivers essential, additional and enhanced services to a registered list of 2,085 patients as of 01 January 2017 from Tithebarn House in the Hardwick area of Stockton on Tees.

The contract was originally commissioned under the Equitable Access to Primary Medical Care Scheme; the contract commenced on 1 April 2009 and had an original end date of 31 March 2014 but has been extended on a number of occasions in order to undertake engagement with patients and stakeholders regarding the future of the service.

The current provider also delivers services to unregistered patients for urgent care. However, the urgent care element of the service is due to move to University Hospital of North Tees from 01 April 2017.

The engagement activity referred to in this briefing is solely in relation to the registered element of the contract. The APMS contract is currently commissioned by NHS Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). The registered patients at this practice currently have 'extended' access to services between 8 am and 8 pm, seven days a week as a result of the co-location of the urgent care service.

Between 18 July and 24 August 2016, NHS Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees Clinical Commissioning Group and NHS England, supported by NHS North of England Commissioning Support (NECS), conducted engagement work with local stakeholders and patients at the practice with the objective of informing them that from 1 April 2017:-

- Services for registered and walk-in patients would be separated

## Appendix 1

- That services to registered patients would be retained in the Hardwick area via a branch surgery of an existing GP practice
- That the opening hours of the surgery would be 8.00am – 6.30pm Monday to Friday

The CCG then invited local practices to apply to provide the branch surgery, with opening hours between 8am and 6.30pm, Monday to Friday. Unfortunately no applications were received.

The CCG has therefore extended the existing contract for a further three months, with Elm Tree GP practice providing GP services from Stockton NHS Healthcare Centre on a temporary basis from 1st April 2017 until 30th June 2017.

The CCG now need to explore any remaining options; the final option to maintain GP services at Stockton NHS Healthcare Centre beyond June 2017 is to secure a provider to run a part-time branch service. The temporary extension of the contract will allow time for further engagement with patients to gain their views on the times and days that a part-time branch service would best meet their needs.

A letter and survey will be sent to all patients aged 16 and over who are registered at Stockton NHS Healthcare Centre (Tithebarn). The letter will inform patients of the current position and the survey will give them the opportunity to say what days and times they would most value access to a part-time branch service.

A link will be provided for those patients who wish to complete the survey online, and it will be made available in other formats and languages on request.

There will also be 2 patient information sessions that will allow patients to discuss the future of the practice in more detail and ask any questions they may have.

The patient information sessions will take place as follows:

<b>Date and Time</b>	<b>Venue</b>
Thursday 06 April 2017 5.30pm to 7pm.	Hardwick Community Centre Whessoe Road Hardwick Stockton-on-Tees TS19 8LB

## Appendix 1

Wednesday 26 April 2017 2.30pm to 4pm.	Hardwick Community Centre Whessoe Road Hardwick Stockton-on-Tees TS19 8LB
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If the CCG is unable to secure a provider for a part-time branch service, there may be no option but to close the practice and ask patients to register with another GP practice. However, this is not the preferred option and the CCG will do its utmost to secure a provider for a part-time branch service.

For further information, please contact the Communications and Engagement Team on 0191 374 2795 or by email at [NECSU.Engagement@NHS.net](mailto:NECSU.Engagement@NHS.net).