

# NHS Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees Clinical Commissioning Group

## Birchtree Practice (Lawson Street) Update

June 2019

[www.hartlepoolandstocktonccg.nhs.uk](http://www.hartlepoolandstocktonccg.nhs.uk)



# Background

- September 2016, Riverside Medical Practice commissioned by NHS England under an emergency APMS contract to provide the primary medical care services at the Birchtree Practice until 31 January 2017
- Local Authority (Public Health) commissioned Change Grow Live (CGL) to deliver substance misuse services
- CCGs Primary Care Commissioning Committee (PCCC) agreed to extend the contract with Riverside Medical Practice (for primary medical care services) for a further 2 years until 31 March 2019 with the intention of practice closure and patient dispersal following expiry of contract
- June 2018, PCCC confirmed their decision to permanently close Birchtree Practice on 31 March 2019 (upon contract expiry)

# Background continued

- Birchtree also provided the Special Allocation Scheme (SAS) Directed Enhanced Service (DES) for patients who had been removed from a General Practice registered list due to violent or threatening behaviour. This was historically provided for both Hartlepool and Stockton patients.
- A Hartlepool SAS was secured as part of the APMS Wynyard Road and Hartfields procurement exercise and the 7 Hartlepool patients being seen under the scheme at Birchtree were transferred to Wynyard Road in January 2019.
- The inclusion of Stockton patients requiring a SAS was included within the scope of the Hartlepool procurement specification to mitigate against any future risk of non-local provision in Stockton
- PCCC approved in June 2018 the recommendation to attempt to secure provision of a Stockton SAS and if this was not possible, to transfer patients to the Hartlepool scheme (provided by McKenzie Group).

# Registered List Closure

- All patients registered with Birchtree Practice have now been successfully allocated and re-registered at a new practice within Stockton-on-Tees.
- Of the total 390 patients at Birchtree who remained on the registered list, 25 patients chose to self-register (patient choice) prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> March, leaving 365 patients to be allocated.
- Allocation was conducted using a fair allocation process, discussed and agreed with Practice Managers across Stockton; patients were allocated based on their postcode, practice boundaries and practice list sizes, ensuring practices within the same cluster received a similar percentage list size increase to ensure the sustainability of existing GP practices. (*see table on next slide*)

Area	Practice Name	No. of patients self-registering (01.10.18 - 12.02.19)	Actual no. of patients allocated (01.03.19)	Total no. of patients	List size prior to allocation (01.01.19)	% list size increase following allocation
Central Stockton	Riverside Medical Practice	2	14	16	4878	0.33%
	Tennant Street Surgery	3	44	47	14586	0.32%
	Woodlands Family Medical Centre	4	37	41	12446	0.33%
	Densham Medical Practice		12	12	4091	0.29%
	Dovecot Surgery		14	14	4029	0.35%
	Queens Park Medical Centre	3	60	63	19597	0.32%
	Arrival Practice		8	8	2356	0.34%
	Alma Medical Practice	7	31	38	11520	0.33%
Thornaby & Ingleby Barwick	Woodbridge Practice	1	20	21	19177	0.11%
	TBMG	1	23	24	22041	0.11%
	Elm Tree Surgery		5	5	4598	0.11%
Norton	Norton Medical centre	2	57	59	17631	0.33%
Billingham	Queenstree	1	2	3	3816	0.08%
	Dr Rasool		2	2	2481	0.08%
	Melrose Surgery		2	2	2601	0.08%
	Marsh House Medical Centre		8	8	8538	0.09%
	Roseberry Practice	1	7	8	7838	0.10%
	Kingsway Medical Centre		9	9	9024	0.10%
Eaglescliffe and Yarm	Eaglescliffe Medical Practice		4	4	10467	0.04%
	Yarm Medical Centre		5	5	14811	0.03%
Stillington	Park Lane Surgery		1	1	4555	0.02%
	Total	25	365	390		

# Special Allocation Scheme

- The SAS DES was offered out to all Stockton-on-Tees practices in November 2018 to try to ensure a service was secured in the Stockton locality. However there was no take-up of the offer.
- Discussions were held with the GP Federation - Hartlepool and Stockton Health (H&SH), about the possibility of the Federation being able to provide the service in Stockton, dependent on contractual mechanisms being agreed with NHS England.
- Unfortunately a solution was not able to be reached with H&SH, and the Stockton SAS patients were transferred to the Hartlepool SAS on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 as part of the pre-planned contingency arrangements.
- 22 Stockton patients were transferred to Hartlepool under the SAS (26 were removed from the scheme following clinical review by clinicians at Birchtree).

# Post-Closure Update

- The CCG has received no feedback from practices or patients following the closure;
- CGL has expressed improved communications with practices - sharing information and using the single point of contact telephone line - which is a positive step;
- CGL is also exploring the use of the Summary Care Record to further improve this communication;
- Healthwatch Stockton had raised concerns with the CCG about the ability of some SAS patients travelling to Hartlepool, but were satisfied with the travel reimbursement arrangements in place under the scheme;
- The Hartlepool SAS provider has reported that there are currently 25 patients on the scheme; they undertake approx 2 - 3 face to face contacts per week, along with telephone consultations. They report no difficulties with transport, and have not had any complaints from the patients.

# Any questions?

The CCG would like to acknowledge the engagement and contribution of all stakeholders throughout this practice closure exercise.

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