

Garswood Surgery PPG Meeting

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2024 6:30pm**

Attendees: Rita Chapman (Chair)(RC), Frank Moss (FM), Alex Prince (AP), Dr David Lawson (DL), Peter Astle (PA), Jennifer Gerrard (JG), Razia Chesworth (RCh), Andy Simpson (AS)

Apologies: Hazel Ryan, Brenda Ashcroft, Dave Matthews, Marilyn Richardson

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	RAISED BY	ACTION
MINUTES OF LAST MEETING	The minutes from the last meeting were discussed and agreed Group agreed to 3 meetings a year – next is December date tbc	RC	No action req
Practice Updates	AP updated the group regarding recent events within the practice. Dr Brennan has sadly now left the practice as she has moved out of the area and has recently given birth to a lovely baby boy.  Dr Hipwell has recently qualified as a GP and has been doing 1 day a week at the surgery with us. Unfortunately, this will end in November due to commitments with his new job at another practice.  The practice has recently employed a new pharmacy technician Joanne who will be joining us from the end of October.		
Urgent Care Hub	The Urgent Care hub started its pilot in May 2024 and is due to end in October. This has been a very successful pilot and it is hoped that funding can be secured in order to continue this service moving forward. The main issue patients from the surgery have had has been getting to the location in central St Helens. The group asked if Doctors would be willing to write a letter to Merseytravel regarding better transport links to support this service. DL agreed practice will be happy to support if funding for future is agreed. DL asked all attendees to feedback regarding the Urgent Care Hub as all opinions will help form the case for this in the future.	AP	
Any other Business.	RCh raised the issue that the SMS text reminders don't appear to be working any more, they are very intermittent. AP explained that the system that is used to send these messages has been off line recently due to updates so this may have caused the issue. AP will look into this for the group and feedback at the next meeting.  RC told the group about the very informative Primary Care Network PPG meeting that she attended on 11 <sup>th</sup> September. She asked if the presentation that DL made to the group could be made available more widely. DL agreed that he could share the video, AP added that this could be put onto the new surgery Website and Facebook Page. DL also added that the we could edit the video to represent the extra staff who are working at Garswood and across St Helens North Network. RC agreed that education of roles is paramount for patients and understanding of what each role can help patients with.	AP	AP to feedback re SMS issues  DL to share video for AP to add to Facebook and Website.

	<p>DL informed the group of the current GP collective action which is currently taking place. The GP's are following BMI guidelines for this action, there is a choice of 9 courses of action which can be chosen from. GP's cannot strike or take industrial action as they are effectively an independent Business. The surgery are currently not signing any new data sharing agreements, this means that when a new service wants access to our clinical system but we are currently saying no. At the moment it is not sure what will come next but DL will keep the group informed.</p> <p>AS asked if it the surgery would be amenable to trainees from The Hamlet at 3 Sisters using the facilities at the practice on a Tuesday when they attend to practice sports on the playing field behind the surgery. DL advised he couldn't see a problem but would check with his partner GP's and also the practice manager and let AS know.</p>		
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Next meeting – December 2024. Date TBC