Wellington Road PPG Meeting

17 January 2024

1. **Previous minutes –** discussed.
2. **Access to urgent/same day appointments**  - discussed. New duty doctor triage is starting today . Designed to manage and prioritise the work load and appointments to help patients get signposted appropriately and directed to the most appropriate clinician/service once all the urgent on the day appointments have been taken. Using online consultation form accessed via our website which is saved to the patient’s record. This is then reviewed by the duty doctor who will contact the patient to discuss the next step. Receptionists will be able to help those patients who do not have digital access. Helen would welcome feedback.

**Any Other Business:**

**Winter Pressure Funding –** It was discussed that the PCN have provided some funding to the surgery for “winter pressure” between 1/10/23 and 31/3/24 to employ locums to provide more appointments.

**Pharmacy First** – this is a new national scheme starting 31.1.24 which will enable pharmacists to deal with and prescribe for simple female UTI/otitis media/sinusitis/sore throat/earache/infected insect bites/shingles and impetigo. This will improve access to GP service by freeing up appointments for those who need GP input.

**Staff update** - Dr Beresford will be retiring at the end of March. Kate Saxon left dispensary in December. Dr Saleemi is our new salaried GP. Dr Roberts is returning back at the end of March after maternity leave. Aamir Zafar is our pharmacy prescriber and Lidia Derviso is employed by the PCN embarking on training to become a prescriber. Dr Todd and Dr Fernandez-Garcia share the role of Dispensing Lead.

**Vaccinations -**  discussion held that there has been a low uptake in nasal flu vaccinations for 2-3 year olds. Suggestion to promote via local nurseries.

**Expansion of services**  - Helen discussed that she had been to a PCN meeting and there is no money available for funding estate expansion. Dr Tindall mentioned that rooms may be available for Newport Cottage Care Centre to PCN for services. Funding may also be available for respiratory services such as spirometry – PPG member to discuss with Helen.

**Date of next meeting:** Possibly 17th April 2024 – date to be finalised.

**Please submit agenda items at least one week prior to the next meeting.**