**Date:** 26 September 2022 (at 10:00)

**Venue:**  St Georges Medical Practice via Teams

**Attendees**

Liz Stewart (ES) – Chair/minutes

Lynsey Jenkins (LJ) – Assistant Practice Manager

Karen Gannon (KG)

Val Johnston (VJ)

Andy Jones (AJ)

**Apologies**

Frank Mills (FM)

Serena Rana-Rahman (SR)

Jane Sinski (JS)

Marjorie Dunn (MD) – IT issues

Grahame Levett (GL) – IT issues

**SUMMARY MEETING NOTES**

1. **Matters arising from Previous Meeting 20 April 2022**

Mental Health Practitioner employed via PCN has had a change in role and will no longer be seeing patients in practice. Instead, she will be working alongside the Practice Aligned Mental Health Team to reduce waiting lists. She will also be spending one day per week developing the PCN Frailty Team.

1. **Update on New Surgery**

The developer is going out to tender for construction prices. The hope is that this will drive the agreed rent and enable the project to progress. Darlington Borough Council Planning Department and Public Health have been involved in pushing for a resolution. We are optimistic there will be a builder contracted by the end of the year.

1. **Enhanced Access**

From 1 October 2022, practices will work together as a Primary Care Network to provide Enhanced Access. This will replace the current extended opening. Appointments will be available early morning, late evening (until 9pm), all day Saturday and Sunday morning. Patients may need to be seen at Forsyth House or any of the other practices in Darlington. Likewise, patients from any Darlington practice can be seen at St George's in our early morning slots.

1. **Online Access**

From 1 November 2022, all patients will have access to prospective data entered into their medical record. This includes results and hospital letters, alongside surgery consultations.

1. **Flu and covid vaccinations.**

The practice will be delivering flu vaccines from the premises this year. Texts with an invitation to book will go to all eligible patients once vaccines are received. (Over 65 vaccine is expected on 27 September 2022, under 65 vaccine has arrived and invitations have been sent to eligible patients).

Covid boosters are not available at the practice and we have no ability to book appointments via the national booking system. Patients are directed to book online or via 119. KG raised the issue that no local sites are currently showing. This will be due to the fact they are fully booked. Sadly, the practice has no control over this. We do know that Middleton Pharmacy are participating in the covid booster campaign and as slots are released, they will appear on the national booking system. The same will apply to Darlington Arena.

1. **Staff Turnover.**

VJ mentioned she thought the practice was experiencing high staff turnover at present. Unfortunately, this is a national issue. It is partly due to a shortage of doctors, nurses and experienced admin staff. It is also a very competitive job market at present and staff are choosing to work in other areas rather than Primary Care. VJ did offer praise for several members of staff but in particular Dr Hunt who joined us in 2021.

1. **Next PPG meeting** - To be arranged for December 2022.

**Actions**

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| Number | Description | Action | Owner | Status |
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