



THE HAVEN PRACTICE

## **Information for Patients about Primary Care Networks**

As some of you may be aware there are changes coming to the way General Practice is funded by NHS England. From July 1<sup>st</sup> we are being encouraged to sign up to a Direct Enhanced Service (DES) under which we will be working together as a group of surgeries in a geographical area and serving a natural local community.

This group will be called a **Primary Care Network (PCN)**. It will eventually expand to include other service providers e.g. community teams, community pharmacies, social services, voluntary services etc. The aim is to offer more personalised, coordinated health and social care to our local populations

Six surgeries have decided to work together in our PCN. They are: Beaconsfield Medical Practice, The Haven Surgery, Matlock Road Surgery, Preston Park Surgery, Stanford Medical Centre and Warmdene Surgery. We will have approximately 57 000 patients in our PCN and over 160 staff.

Through the PCN and this DES will come the majority of our funding, over the next 5 years we have potentially around £1.9 million in new investment. The majority of this funding will be to enable us to hire additional staffing groups to join our Practice teams. These staff groups are Practice pharmacists, social prescribers, physiotherapists, physician assistants and paramedics. Their purpose will be to provide additional clinical capacity, free up GP time for patients who need more input, work with nursing homes and the housebound and broaden the skill mix in our Practice teams.

The PCN will ensure that all our patients have access to the Extended Hours Service. There is also planned work around nursing homes, cancer and cardiovascular diagnosis, personalised care, medication reviews and anticipatory care. This will be rolled out over the next five years.

### **What does this mean for Patients?**

This is the first significant investment in primary care and General Practice after over 10 years of cuts and underfunding.

We will use it to work co-operatively, share best Practice, maximise the use of the extensive skills of our staff, reduce bureaucracy and save on time and costs by sharing administration and processes. This will standardise and improve the service and care we can offer our patients and allow for better health and social outcomes. We will also over time be able to provide access to these additional staff members and their clinical skills, that will complement our current teams and help to reduce the current unmanageable workload and stress on the staff in the surgeries.

With the other PCNs in the city we can explore ways of working together, to ensure we get joined up city-wide, services that work for all our patients

The PCN and its funding will act as a springboard to enable us to make the changes that will make primary care and General Practice sustainable for the future, build resilience in our teams and most importantly give us the chance to develop and grow general Practice to into a model that is fit for the future, that provides for the needs of patients and plans for the future demands on the services

We will keep your informed of the progress of our PCN.

If you would like to be more involved, each Surgery has a Patient Participation Group (PPG)who will be consulted and involved in the development of the broader PCN.