



The Peninsula Practice

THE PENINSULA PRACTICE

Our practice, which runs a primary care service in Hollesley village each Monday afternoon, is running an engagement exercise to seek views on a proposal to withdraw this branch service from the village.

We believe our weekly four-hour service provided at the village hall is too costly and not fit for delivering primary health care services in a modern era but, before we make any final decision, we want to understand what impact this proposal may have on people who use this service.

Our weekly village surgery in Hollesley is operated by a GP and a practice nurse. The provision is currently as follows:

- GP - one 4 hour session on Monday afternoon offering 10 appointments
- Practice Nurse - one 3.5 hour session Monday afternoon offering 18 appointments

The average number of patients who currently attend face to face appointments at Hollesley is six per week to see the GP, and four patients each week for the nurse.

We have purpose-built surgery buildings at nearby Alderton, Aldeburgh and Orford, all with full disabled access. Alderton and Orford surgeries both have fully operational dispensaries.

Our reasons for the proposed change:

- Cleaning is £6,000 per annum for a once-a-week afternoon clinic
- Equipment and its upkeep are ever increasing costs and duplicated across 4 current sites for Peninsula Practice
- Infection and Prevention Control costs are high and increasing
- Clinical time (GP, Practice Nurse, Dispenser)
- Duplication of services – both Orford and Aldeburgh Surgery are open on a Monday afternoon and will remain so
- Hollesley surgery is no longer fit for purpose with the increasing challenges with digital technology
- Additional time must be funded for a member of staff to set the computers up on a Monday morning due to the slowness of the connections despite numerous attempts by IT teams to help over many years
- Telephones are not connected to the main surgery system so there is no internal communication link across all sites
- Confidentiality is an ongoing problem, with no sound barriers in the waiting room to speak to the receptionist.



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What will happen if this proposed closure is implemented - how would care be provided for people who use the service at the village?

Patients do not need to be concerned that there will be any compromise to their care:

- Monday afternoon appointments will still be available and fully staffed from Orford and Aldeburgh from 8.30am to 6.30pm on Mondays
- Hollesley has only ever been open on a Monday afternoon for a small number of hours and these are not for urgent appointments which are always triaged and managed at other sites every day
- Numbers of local patients who do use the surgery are low (as above - 6 patients for GP and 4 for practice nurse per week on average).

I collect my Prescription medication from Hollesley - what should I do if the surgery is to close?

- We are looking into ways for patients to continue to collect their prescriptions for those who cannot collect from Alderton, including buddy systems, good neighbourhood schemes, and other possible collection points
- If any patient who routinely collects their medication from Hollesley surgery knows of any issues they may have collecting after 31st March, please speak with one of our Dispensers who will try to help arrange an alternative.

Have your say

Our patient engagement activity will focus on the impact that this proposal withdrawal of the service would have on local people.

We have conducted some early engagement work about our proposal with local people and have written to the local parish council and community for their views. We have also engaged with our Practice Participation Group (PPG).

We are asking local people for their views on the impact that this proposal would have on them so that we can consider these before any final decision is made.

Please let us know how this proposal would impact you by 5th March 2023.

You can email us directly at sneeicb-ies.peninsula-practice@nhs.net or write to the practice by letter.