

Proposed Changes to 2 GP practices in Sandwell and 1 GP practice in West Birmingham

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without boundaries

Introduction

- The consultation is being led by Sandwell and West Birmingham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG); a membership organisation made up of 85 GP practices. The CCG is responsible for buying a range of health services for its population, including GP services.
- Most of our GP practices hold a General Medical Services (GMS) contract with us which do not have an end date. However, a small number of practices hold an Alternative Provider Medical Services (APMS) contract which are only for a fixed term.
- 3 of our APMS contracts are due to naturally expire on 31st March 2019 and we must now decide what the future of these practices should be in order to best meet the health needs of the local population.

The GP practices being reviewed as part of the consultation due to their contracts coming to an end include:

- Malling Health Centre Sandwell, Parsonage Street, West Bromwich
- Malling Health Great Bridge, Charles Street, West Bromwich
- Summerfield GP Practice (attached to the urgent care centre)

All of these contracts were originally due to expire in March 2014, and have already been extended for 5 years. It is not possible for the current contracts to be extended any further.

This consultation will focus on GP services for registered patients only. We will be having separate conversations at a later date, in terms of the associated walk-in services at two of these practices

The options for each practice

- **Option 1 – To re-procure the GP practice contract**

This would result in the contract being put out to tender, which is a competitive process for any qualified provider to apply for the contract.

- **Option 2 – To close the practice and move patients to other local practices**

This would mean allowing the contract to come to a natural end and not procuring anything in its place. Patients would have to choose another practice to register with.

Malling Health - Great Bridge

Benefits and drawbacks of Option 1 – To re-procure the contract at the Great Bridge practice:

Benefits	Drawbacks/ risks
Retains a GP presence in that particular area	Possible new provider
This may be less disruptive to patients as they will not need to register with another practice	Does not take advantage of providing primary care 'at scale'
Maintains patient choice in the area	

Malling Health - Great Bridge

Benefits and drawbacks of Option 2 – To close the practice and move patients to other local practices:

Benefits	Drawbacks/ risks
Patients may register with another practice at any time they choose and patients may identify an alternative practice closer to home and more suitable to their needs	All patients currently registered with the practice would need to register with another practice
In addition there are 7 other GP practices within a 1 mile radius which may be able to accommodate the current registered patients	Patients may delay registering elsewhere, putting themselves at risk by not having a GP
	May cause disruption to patients i.e. some patients may have to travel further to access primary care
	There would potentially be additional pressure on other local practices by registering new patients

Malling Health - West Bromwich

Benefits and drawbacks of Option 1 – To re-procure the GP practice contract at Parsonage Street:

Benefits	Drawbacks/ risks
A GP presence is retained in that particular area	Possible new provider
This may be less disruptive to patients as they will not need to register with another practice	A new provider may not be able to deliver services in the current building so new premises may need to be found (This is because the lease expires 6 months after the GP contract ends)
Maintains patient choice in the area	Does not take advantage of providing primary care 'at scale'

Malling Health - West Bromwich

Benefits and drawbacks of Option 2 – To close the practice and move patients to other local practices:

Benefits	Drawbacks/ risks
There are 5 GP practices within a 1 mile radius of the Parsonage Street practice which may be able to accommodate the current registered patients.	All patients currently registered with the practice would need to register with another practice
Patients may register with another practice at any time they choose and patients may identify an alternative practice closer to their home and more suitable to their needs.	Patients may delay registering elsewhere, putting themselves at risk by not having a GP
	May cause disruption to patients i.e. some patients may have to travel further to access primary care
	There would potentially be additional pressure on other local practices by registering new patients

Summerfield GP Practice (Virgin Care)

Benefits and drawbacks of Option 1 – To re-procure the contract at the Summerfield GP practice:

Benefits	Drawbacks/ risks
This may be less disruptive to patients as they will not need to register with another practice	Possible new provider
	Does not take advantage of providing primary care 'at scale'

Summerfield GP Practice (Virgin Care)

Benefits and drawbacks of Option 2 – To close the practice and move patients to other local practices:

Benefits	Drawbacks/ risks
Patients will be able to re-register at a practice within the same Primary Care Centre if they choose, minimising disruption.	All patients currently registered with the practice would need to register with another practice
Vacant space within the Primary Care Centre could be used by other community health services, enabling them to be provided closer to home.	Patients may delay registering elsewhere, putting themselves at risk by not having a GP
In addition there are 9 other GP practices within a 1 mile radius which may be able to accommodate the current registered patients.	May cause disruption to patients i.e. some patients may have to travel further to access primary care
Patients may register with another practice at any time they choose and patients may identify an alternative practice closer to home and more suitable to their needs.	There would potentially be additional pressure on other local practices by registering new patients

Which options will we choose?

- At the moment we don't know which options we will choose because we need your feedback –
- This consultation will help us understand what is important to all the people who have an interest in the future of the practices, particularly the patients.
- We also need to understand if you think there are other options for the future of the practices we haven't considered.
- The feedback you give us will inform the decision to be made and help the CCG and NHS England to make the right choice for local GP services. Other factors will also need to be taken into account such as finance, buildings and building leases, and risks.

Consultation activities to date

- Launched on 5th February 2018
- Letters sent to all patients registered at affected practices
- Letters sent to stakeholders
- 2 x press releases
- Social media activity on Twitter
- Information on website
- Posters displayed and leaflets distributed in affected practices
- 6 drop in sessions held for patients and stakeholders
- Discussion at the Summerfield Patient Participation Group
- News bulletin article to all member GP practices
- Discussions at GP locality meetings

Upcoming consultation activities

- Joint Health Scrutiny Committee
- Remaining GP locality meetings
- Proactive/ targeted consultation in practice waiting rooms (potentially with the help of PPG members)
- Use of Language Line facility and/or Interpreters
- Arrange additional Patient Participation Group meetings at affected practices
- Create brief text messages for the practices to send out to all patients who have a mobile phone
- Further press release and social media activity

How to submit your answers and comments

The consultation was originally due to end on 19th March but has now been **extended to 16th April 2018**, so we need to receive your views by then, either by:

- Completing a questionnaire today
- Returning the questionnaire using the freepost envelope
- By completing on our website at www.sandwellandwestbhamccg.nhs.uk

How to submit your answers and comments

You can also tell us your views by:

- Telephone - 0121 612 4110
- Email - SWBCCG.Time2Talk@nhs.net
- Post: Customer Care Team
 Sandwell and West Birmingham CCG
 Kingston House
 West Bromwich
 B70 9LD

Questions



Thank You