

25 September 2019

Dear

Proposed Full Merger of St. Andrew's Medical Practice and Oxford Road Medical Practice

On 1st August this year St. Andrew's Medical Practice and Oxford Road Medical Practice underwent an administrative merger. At this point Dr Roy took her planned retirement. Prior to the merger all of Dr Roy's patients were written to advising them of what was about to take place and welcoming them to the new practice.

The GP partners at St. Andrew's Medical Practice became the holders of the Personal Medical Services agreement for Oxford Road Medical Practice as well as holding the PMS agreement for St. Andrew's Medical Practice.

Both sites remain open and the partners at St. Andrew's have purchased the building at Oxford Road. The staff at both practices remain in post and are employed by the partners at St. Andrew's.

It is now proposed that the practices undergo a full merger which means that there will only be one PMS agreement and one list of patients.

Since the administrative merger clinicians have operated from both sites and this will continue. The extra space means that we can provide more services for all of our patients and to this end we have recruited a number of extra staff – these include:-

- a physiotherapist to provide early assessment of musculoskeletal conditions
- a full-time salaried GP
- a full-time chronic disease management practitioner
- Two new advanced care practitioners (paramedics)
- Two new practice nurses

Once there has been a full merger and we move to one registered patient list, patients from Oxford Road will be able to take advantage of our dispensary and medication delivery service if they live in the outlying villages of Byers Green, Binchester, Newfield, Kirk Merrington or Hett so improving the service they already receive from the practice.

The growth of the town, new building and increased population means that neither site, as a stand-alone practice, would remain large enough to provide the full range of services that a modern GP Practice needs to be able to provide but the merger gives capacity not only for the services provided directly by the practice but also a range of allied services making them accessible close to home for all patients.

The practice is undergoing a full engagement process from Monday 14 October 2019 to Monday 2 December 2019 including notifying stakeholders, providing information on our website including a section of FAQs and information on our TV presentations in the surgeries.

There will be two drop-in sessions held at the Oxford Road site on Tuesday 22 October 2019 from 2pm until 4pm and on Wednesday 23 October from 5pm until 7pm when staff will be available to take any questions and discuss any queries you may have.

We are engaging with the PPG s at the practice and will take their advice on whether any larger public meetings are required.

If you have any queries or comments or would like any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Tracey Martin
Practice Manager

Traceymartin1@nhs.net

01388 825212