

# ONE ELLESMERE PORT PRIMARY CARE NETWORK

## WHAT IS A PRIMARY CARE NETWORK (PCN)?

Since the NHS was created in 1948, the population has grown and people are living longer, often with one of more long term health conditions.

To meet these needs, in 2018 the Government grouped GP practices together on natural geographic footprints and called them Primary Care Networks or PCNs.

Simply, the aim of PCNs is to build resilience and increase capacity across primary care (GP practices). PCNs have introduced new roles and services to GP Practices (in addition to the existing workforce) to best serve the needs of the individual PCN populations. They also work at scale and offer shared services to our whole population so everyone has equal access to services.

There are 1,250 PCNs in England! PCNs vary in size, typically they are 30,000 to 50,00 in population. One Ellesmere Port PCN has a patient population of approximately 72,300 and rising!

## WHO ARE WE?

One Ellesmere Port PCN was established in 2018. It's core members are the 6 GP Practices from across the town:

- Great Sutton Medical Centre
- Whitby Health Partnership
- Hope Farm Medical Centre
- York Road Group Practice
- Old Hall Surgery
- Westminster Surgery



Together we are working to create a better future for patients across Ellesmere Port



## OUR SERVICES

The PCN funds and manages a large number of roles and services across all of our 6 GP Practices - all in addition to the existing workforces within our GP practices.

Our services include:

- **Mental Health**
  - Mental Health Occupational Therapists
  - Mental Health Link Workers (Counsellors)
  - Dementia Practitioner
- **Social Prescribing Service**
  - Social Prescribing Link Workers
  - Wellbeing Coordinators
- **Weight Management**
  - Adult Dietitian
  - Health & Wellbeing Coach
- **Medicines Optimisation**
  - Clinical Pharmacists
  - Pharmacy Technicians



We also have:

- **First Contact Physiotherapists**
- **GP Assistants**
- **Care Coordinators**

## OUR FOCUS THIS YEAR

- Improving access to appointments
  - New Websites
  - New telephone systems
  - Increased Online Consultations
- Improving capacity:
  - More appointments
  - More clinicians
- Vaccination Programmes
  - COVID
  - Flu
  - RSV
- Expanding PCN Research



## FUTURE NEWSLETTERS

This newsletter is a brief overview of the PCN, but future newsletters will include more details on:

- Specific services and roles
- Individual GP Practices
- Upcoming vaccination clinics
- PCN Patient Champion Group
- PCN Research

... and much more!



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