

MINUTES PPG MEETING 11/3/25

Present - Barry Menear, Judith Marshall, Tracy Wilson, Anthony Radley, Ben Jancovich, Karen

S-B, Caroline Pinder, Jackie Metcalf, Anthony Alders, David Hancock, Pat Power, Margareta Holmstedt, Margaret Gunton, Roy Gunton, Richard Woodcock, Lynn Madgwick, Julia Grieve, Nikki Stocks

Minutes of last meeting - Approved as read.

Update from the Practice - The practice is experiencing high numbers of patients. One day in February there were 475 phone calls with 219 call backs. DNA's are still challenging with 308 in January and 281 in February, representing 300 appointment equivalents or 23 GP surgeries. Richard said the national average for DNAs is 4-5%, or over 1 million a month. We are below the national level. Repeated DNAs of 4 or 5 are referred to social link workers.

Regarding accessing services, copies of a recent newsletter covering this subject were distributed.

The Breast Screening Clinic has arrived and services are ongoing.

The patient survey is now closed. Results will be available soon.

A subject for a future meeting could be the NHS app.

The software provider mixes up locations between Todmorden and Hebden Bridge. Also it doesn't know the difference between a phone or a clinic appointment and sometimes short notice can be an issue.

General comments about the practice are very good. David said he had noticed `massive improvement` and Pat said she receives lots of positive feedback from patients. Ten GPs are making a major difference.

We will hold off inviting Josh Fenton Glynn for now due to bereavement. Helen Brundell has been invited. She is a local councillor on the Health & Scrutiny Board.

Richard has written to Josh Fenton Glynn and Wes Streeting on behalf of both PPGs (HB and Tod) about the use of the building and wasted space, health inequalities etc. Josh mentioned Todmorden Health Center in Parliament so he is aware of our issues.

The Assura PFI loan for the building will be coming to an end soon. Could one-off funds from the Abraham Ormerod Trust be used to set up new services? Everything is in flux with the NHS at the moment.

Following discussion about possible uses of the available space in the building, Tracy said the facility could house any or all of the various ideas discussed such as a Diagnostic Center , Urgent Care etc. She said we were supposed to be piloting a Diagnostic Hub last year but it fell through. Our ideas are in line with Wes Streeting's Road to Recovery. Tracy said the practice says yes to any proposed pilot scheme but so far nothing has developed. She encouraged us to keep on doing what we're doing and writing to our MP. Nikki said we could be a flagship for Wes Streeting's plans. Tracy said she would be happy to collect data to back up any of our proposals.

Caroline Pinder asked if Huddersfield and Halifax hospitals could look at patients post codes when making appointments. Margareta said you can always callback to reschedule however this can put your appointment back by a few weeks.

Tracy suggested we keep to the general message of health inequalities in the Upper Calder Valley and avoid political opinions or specific names for things. We need to put political opinions to one side and focus on that message.

Margareta said the NHS are paying for empty rooms and they might as well put something in it. In Todmorden 1,457 homes have no car with Hebden Bridge probably at about 2,000. In Todmorden 20% are over 65 with 21.7% for Hebden Bridge. 7% are suffering with bad health. 21% of this ward have a disability or long term health problems, which is a fifth of the population. These statistics provide us with a good argument. We can make good use of demographics. Look up Calderdale Statistics, Todmorden Calder Ward and Todmorden Ward.

We could get information from A & E with a Freedom of Information Request asking for numbers with Todmorden and Burnley postcodes.

Margareta suggested a couple of Market Days this summer with a stall about the PPG and the practice . We could use it to gather feedback and give out information.

Date of next meeting - Tuesday, April 29th 11:00 am