# Advocacy support

- POhWER support centre can be contacted via 0300 456 2370
- Advocacy People gives advocacy support on 0330 440 9000
- Age UK on 0800 055 6112
- Local Council can give advice on local advocacy services

### Further action

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of your complaint from either the Integrated Care Board (ICB) or this organisation then you can escalate your complaint to:

Parliamentary Health Service Ombudsman (PHSO) Milbank Tower Milbank London SW1P 4QP

Tel: 0345 015 4033 www.ombudsman.org.uk

T: 01782 627403 E: Wolstanton.MedicalCentre@staffs.nhs.uk Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire, ST5 8BN

# The Complaints Process

**Wolstanton Medical Practice** 



#### Talk to us

Every patient has the right to make a complaint about the treatment or care they have received at Wolstanton Medical Centre.

We understand that we may not always get everything right and, by telling us about the problem you have encountered, we will be able to improve our services and patient experience.

#### Who to talk to

Most complaints can be resolved at a local level. Please speak to a member of staff if you have a complaint; our staff are trained to handle complaints.

Alternatively, ask to speak to the complaint's manager, the Practice Manager.

If for any reason you do not want to speak to a member of our staff, then you can request that the Staffordshire and Stokeon-Trent Integrated Care Board (ICB) investigates your complaint. They will contact us on your behalf:

Freephone: 0808 196 8861

**Email:** PatientServices@staffsstoke.icb.nhs.uk

Post:

New Beacon Building Stafford Education and Enterprise Park Weston Road Stafford ST18 OBF

A complaint can be made verbally or in writing. A complaints form is available from reception. Additionally, you can complain via email to

Wolstanton.MedicalCentre@staffs.nhs.uk

# Time frames for complaints

The time constraint on bringing a complaint is 12 months from the occurrence giving rise to the complaint, or 12 months from the time you become aware of the matter about which you wish to complain.

The Practice Manager will respond to all complaints within three business days.

We will aim to investigate and provide you with the findings as soon as we can and will provide regular updates regarding the investigation of your complaint.

# Investigating complaints

Wolstanton Medical Centre will investigate all complaints effectively and in conjunction with extant legislation and quidance.

# Confidentiality

Wolstanton Medical Centre will ensure that all complaints are investigated with the utmost confidentiality and that any documents are held separately from the patient's healthcare record.

## Third party complaints

Wolstanton Medical Centre allows a third party to make a complaint on behalf of a patient. The patient must provide consent for them to do so. A third-party patient complaint form is available from reception.

# Final response

Wolstanton Medical Centre will issue a final formal response to all complainants which will provide full details and the outcome of the complaint. Further information is detailed in our organisation policy.