

PUBLIC

MINUTES of a meeting of the **IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – HEALTH** held at County Hall, Matlock on 10 June 2015.

PRESENT

Councillor S A Bambrick (in the Chair)

Councillors Mrs E Atkins, W Major, D McGregor, Mrs J E Patten, Mrs I Ratcliffe and Mrs M Stockdale.

Also in attendance were:-

Councillor P Gilby (Local County Councillor and Chesterfield Borough Council Scrutiny Chair).

J Pendleton – North Derbyshire CCG
J Stringfellow – North Derbyshire CCG
G Boyle – Royal Primary Care
S Hackett – Royal Primary Care
J Morehen – Patient Participation Group

15 members of the public.

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Ms S Blank.

21/15 SERVICES PROVIDED FORMERLY BY THE HOLYWELL MEDICAL GROUP

The Chair informed Members that the special meeting had been called following the discussions that took place at the meeting of the Committee held on 18 May when Members had learned that Holywell Medical Group would no longer be able to provide GP services after 14 May and that, to ensure a safe and sustainable service continued for local patients, Royal Primary Care had been commissioned to provide an emergency caretaker service until 31 March 2016 .

The Health representatives gave a detailed explanation of the circumstances and time-line that had developed and which ultimately led to Holywell Medical Group no longer being able to provide the GP services.

North Derbyshire CCG had commissioned services from three of the five previous sites and this was to preserve services and to help secure a more sustainable service model in the face of national shortages of medical and other primary care professionals. The sites that continued to offer full services for all Holywell Medical Group patients were The Grange Family Health Centre, Rectory Surgery and Inkersall Family Medical Centre. Holywell House and Barrow Hill surgeries had closed on Thursday 14 May.

G Boyle and S Hackett of Royal Primary Care outlined their plans for the development of the GP services for the 24,500 patients. All current GPs had remained and there was limited movement of patients to other practices. Royal Primary Care saw this as an opportunity in terms of integration with service improvements utilising the Royal Hospital's expertise. Recruitment of additional staff was underway.

Royal Primary Care would be looking to tender for the provision of the service after March 2016.

Members asked a number of questions about the process that had led to the changes and about the plans for the future.

J Morehen, Patient Participation Group representative, outlined the experience for patients locally and that they were hoping for better in the future.

The Chair invited the members of the public that were present to ask any questions of the Health representatives and a number of questions were asked and replies were given.

The Chair thanked the Health representatives for the information that had been presented which answered many of the concerns of Members. The Committee was able to endorse and commend the action that was being taken at the present time to ensure that patients were able to access all services at the remaining three sites and any potential disruption to services had been kept to a minimum. The Committee was particularly keen to understand how patients were being integrated into alternative surgeries and asked that the CCG and Royal Primary Care report back on progress made over the coming months.