

ENGAGEMENT EVENT– NOTETAKER SHEET

Event: Solva Surgery - the future of services for registered patients: online meeting for councillors

Date: 30 January 2023, 1pm-2pm

Attendees: Bethan Price, county councillor for St Davids and St Davids City Council; Richard Thornton, St Davids City Council; Jill Morgan, Chair of Mathry Community Council; Paul Niedzwiedzki, Llanrhian Community Council

Health Board staff in attendance: Jill Paterson, Director of Primary Care, Community and Long Term Care; Judith Hardisty, Health Board Vice-Chair; Anna Swinfield, Head of GMS Sustainability, Primary Care; Liz Cartwright, Engagement Officer.

Notes of the comments and questions raised by councillors.

JM	<p>It is vital that Solva Surgery remains open. The location is convenient for people living in the rural areas it serves, particularly elderly and disabled people. Historically, residents of Mathry and Llanrhian have been patients at the surgery. In the past the surgery even ran surgeries in outlying areas. The surgery is purpose built and easily accessible for elderly patients. It offers adequate parking facilities. Parking is limited at St Davids and Fishguard surgeries. The staff are efficient. It is important for people who are unwell to be treated in familiar surroundings by staff they know.</p>
RT	<p>Has St Davids Surgery been asked if it could take on Solva patients? Does it have the capacity? One of the scenarios is that Solva patients could be dispersed to other surgeries in the area which will have no choice in the matter. There would be considerable impact on St Davids if it had to take on Solva patients.</p> <p>At last week's meeting in Solva [public drop-in meeting organised by the Health Board], I was told that local doctors would have to take the patients. I am concerned about the effect on St Davids Surgery – it could become overloaded. It would destroy the surgery.</p>
RT	<p>If new doctors do not want to take on Solva Surgery, does the Health Board give interest-free loans to GPs to purchase the practice or could the Health Board purchase the building?</p>
JM	<p>Is St Davids Surgery at capacity? Does it have capacity to cope with more patients. Would it be possible to bring in more local doctors into St Davids to cope with patient numbers?</p>
PN	<p>I'm not clear what the options are and what the Health Board's preferred option is.</p> <p>How would a managed practice work if the retiring GP owns the premises?</p>
JM	<p>Dispersal option – surgeries will need to take on more GPs to handle the increase in patients.</p>
PN	<p>With option 4 [dispersal of patients to their nearest alternative practice], patients would be dispersed to St Davids Surgery but no additional staff would be provided?</p>

JM	Could the Health Board provide cover with locum doctors to give more time to find a group of GPs to take on Solva practice? [As in Fishguard Health Centre]
PN	From what I understand, option 1 [new GP takes over the practice] and option 2 [APMS – alternative provider of medical services] are out because of the timescale. Option 3 [practice managed directly by the Health Board] is out because there aren't enough GPs, which means the only option is dispersal? Is option 3 practical?
RT	Is it possible for the health board to manage the practice for 12 months, renting the existing premises, and in the meantime advertise for a private company or group of GPs to take on the practice?
PN	If Solva patients are dispersed to St Davids, it will be an issue for the practice to get more GPs. Will it be offered more money? It's not helpful to consultees if we don't know the possibilities eg the premises too small; not enough GPs etc. We need to know the impact on the existing practice. This could lead to its destabilisation.
JM	There is not enough physical space at St Davids to expand.
BP	Why is Solva a single GP practice? There used to be two partners. Is there any reason why young GPs can't be recruited?
PN	Given the issues with single GP practices, could Solva be combined with St Davids giving a larger team across two premises.
RT	If Solva patients are dispersed to St Davids, will you put on transport to get people to St Davids if they can't drive?
JM	Parking is an issue if you're driving to St Davids.
PN	The dispersal options is of great concern if more than 1,000 patients are added to the St Davids list without knowing if there's enough space or if there will be any additional GPs.
RT	Will the meeting to decide the future of the Solva practice be livestreamed? Please could you send me the link.

Name of Notetaker (PLEASE PRINT): Liz Cartwright