

The future of Solva Surgery – Co-ordinator’s response to request from HDUHB

We were asked at the Health Board Engagement event in Solva Memorial Hall on 24 January to put in writing the effects a potential closure of Solva Surgery would have from Solva Care’s point of view.

Many of the people we support retired to Solva at a time when they were active and well. As they grow older and need more support, they often do not have family nearby to step in. That’s where we come in to help with transport, prescription pick and many other things. Our volunteers bring people to Solva Surgery, and they pick up prescriptions from there, as well as from St David’s. Occasionally we will bring people to and from Withybush but the transport we provide is usually short distance.

If Solva Surgery closed and the patient list was dispersed, it would cause problems. Not just for the people we support but also for those who are still well enough to walk to the surgery for their appointments or to pick up their medication. They get a bit of exercise and fresh air in the process, not to mention the personal contact with the surgery staff, other patients and people they meet on the way.

Apart from the fact that the funding of Solva Care ends next spring, we would struggle to find volunteers to drive people longer distances, e.g. to Fishguard, Haverfordwest and wherever else people would end up being registered. The same applies to prescription pickup. The increased fuel costs would add to the problem.

We have a good relationship with Solva Surgery and are able to raise concerns that we have about people and they refer patients to us when they think we can help. The co-ordinator has a room there for a couple of hours every week, so people can pop in and have a chat about any support they may need. Not only are the GP’s based in Solva Surgery, but also district nurses and other specialty nurses such as diabetes, physios and other allied health professionals.

Solva Care has representatives on the Solva Surgery Action Group, headed by Solva Community Council, to find a solution.

Connecting our Community – Cysylltu ein Cymuned

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