Dear Patient

St. David’s Surgery – new developments

We are writing to all households where some or all of you may be registered with St. David’s Surgery to inform you of new developments with the surgery.

You will be aware that St. David’s is one of a group of smaller practices in North Pembrokeshire, and that these smaller, rural practices throughout the UK are finding it harder to survive because of increasing workloads, difficulties with GP recruitment and pressures on NHS resources. Earlier this year, neighbouring Goodwick Surgery was taken into management by Hywel Dda University Health Board because it was unable to recruit new GPs when the GP partner retired. The Health Board underwent an open tender process for a new GP contractor to operate Goodwick Surgery, and I am pleased to inform you that St. David’s Surgery will take over the practice from 1st April 2016. The Health Board will continue to manage Goodwick Surgery until that time.

The joining of the two practices reflects the confidence felt by the Health Board in the team at St. David’s Surgery and is a significant step towards securing the future of the two surgeries within the communities they serve.

It is anticipated that as a patient you will see little change during this time but work will continue to ensure a smooth transition as the practices join together. **You do not need to do anything as your care will continue to be delivered from St. David’s Surgery.** A recruitment process is underway to appoint permanent GPs to work within the practice alongside Drs Ferguson & Kauschinger in St David’s, and Dr Mathias in Goodwick.

Following the commencement of the new contract in April 2016 services at both practices will continue as normal and will be available to all patients at both surgeries, according to your preference. This will provide an additional opportunity for patients who live or work between St. David’s and Goodwick who will have a choice of where they receive their care.

St Davids Surgery has said ‘We are very pleased to be awarded the contract for Goodwick Surgery. By merging our resources we are better able to meet the considerable challenges faced by smaller practices and to build a more robust and sustainable future in both the communities we serve. We look forward to a period of transition and the continued development of services at both Goodwick and St. David’s. We hope St. David’s patients will welcome this move and will continue to support their surgery and its staff. Both St. David’s and Goodwick surgeries can look forward to a more secure future built on a stable and sustainable base.’
If you would like further information or have any questions please contact Amanda Whiting, Primary Care Locality Development Manager for North Pembrokeshire on 07805 757 662, Cilla Morgan, Practice Manager at Goodwick Surgery on 01348 872802 or Anna Swinfield, Practice Manager at St David’s Surgery on 01437 720303.

Yours sincerely

Elaine Lorton
Assistant Director of Primary Care / Cyfarwyddwr Cynorthwyol Gofal Sylfaenol