

The Surgery

Lion Road
Glemsford, Sudbury
Suffolk CO10 7RF

Partners:

Dr Mary Giblin
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Dear Patients, Carers and Friends of Glemsford Surgery

10th March 2020

As many of you will be aware, we have been working hard over the last 3 years providing GP services to the people of Glemsford and neighbouring villages. This has become increasingly challenging. We have been working hard to maintain a high level of patient care and accessibility especially GP recruitment and retention. This is unfortunately a nationwide problem and small, rural practices such as ours, can sadly be the most affected. To address these issues, we have been in discussions with West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group (WSCCG) and West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust (WSFT) to find a sustainable way forward. This letter is to provide early notification of our plans from 1st April 2020 onwards.

What are we doing?

We are writing to let you know we remain passionate and committed to providing healthcare services in Glemsford. To face these problems, we are delighted to share with you that we are working towards joining the West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust (WSFT) from 1st April 2020

Will there be changes to the Surgery?

The Trust will work alongside the GPs and Surgery staff to continue to deliver GP services to the people of Glemsford. On a day-to-day, basis our service and opening hours will not change. We will continue to see and treat patients and our GP, Nursing and Administration teams will remain.

What will be the benefits be?

We believe there are a wide array of benefits from this new model of joint working. At the heart of it all is improved patient care. We will work together to develop and join together our healthcare services. This will include Community Nursing colleagues as part of the Hospital teams. We know that Clinicians working together will be in a better position to design effective, high quality clinical care. Other benefits include better information sharing between GP and Hospital settings.

How will it help to ensure we have enough GPs and Nurses?

It will allow us to explore creating attractive non-traditional GP roles at the surgery. GPs and Nurses working here at the Surgery will be able to link with the hospital. We will also become a Training Practice, offering junior Doctors the possibility of training here and promote working in primary care.

Has this been done elsewhere?

This model of joint working between Hospitals and GP Surgeries is working effectively in other parts of the country. For example, in Wolverhampton the Trust is now providing GP services with 10 practices. We will be the first in Suffolk.

How do I get more information?

We will, of course, keep you regularly updated. Over the past year, our Patient Participation Group (PPG) has been kept informed. We welcome additional members to join our PPG. If you would like to join us, please visit our website www.glemsfordsurgery.co.uk or telephone the Surgery on 01787 280484 for more information. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. We would be grateful if, in the first instance, you can email the surgery on wscg.glemsfordsurgery@nhs.net or complete one of our patient feedback slips which are now available in the Waiting Room.

Finally, we want to reassure our patients, carers and friends of the Surgery that we all share a commitment and willingness to innovate and to build services which are better for both our patients and staff. We truly believe by working together with our colleagues at West Suffolk Hospital we can secure GP services at Glemsford Surgery for many years to come. We are excited to be at the forefront of revolutionising the NHS in West Suffolk.

Best wishes

Dr ME Giblin

Dr MT Piccaver

Dr MJ Williams