

South Cotswold Improved Access Pilot

Locations:

- > Avenue Surgery (The)
- > Hilary Cottage Surgery
- > Phoenix Surgery
- > Rendcomb Surgery
- > Romney House Surgery
- > St Peter's Road Surgery
- > Upper Thames Medical Group
- > Cirencester Hospital



Update from Dr Anna Keitley, GP Provider Lead on behalf of South Cotswold

The General Practice Forward View published in April 2016 set out plans to enable clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) to commission and fund additional capacity across England to ensure that, by 2020 everyone has improved access to GP services including sufficient routine appointments at evenings and weekends to meet locally determined demand, alongside effective access to out of hours and urgent care services.

Gloucestershire CCG made the decision to give the additional funding to deliver this service to Cluster groups. The GP Surgeries in South Cotswolds region are working together as a Cluster to improve access to primary care to our patients. To do this the practices are offering additional GP clinics between 6:30 and 8.00 pm on weekdays as well as GP and Nurse clinic hours on Saturday mornings (8.30 to 12.30 pm). Patients registered with any of the South Cotswold practices listed above may be offered one of these appointments at any one of the above Locations.

To help facilitate this pilot, the Cluster have set-up an Improved Access Working Group comprising of two GPs and two Practice Managers who represent their colleagues to take this forward. The Working Group will be looking at how the service is used over the next year to help us to decide how to continue in the longer term.

We are excited to be able to offer these extra appointments and to be working together to achieve this and to fulfil the current NHS vision of delivering 8.00 am — 8.00 pm access to primary care. We hope the Saturday morning clinics will help those who work or who depend on those to work to access our services more easily.

Under Development

Although this is at a very early stage, the practices are working with Gloucestershire Care Services to consider how we can deliver a service for patients initially presenting to their practice with same day primary care needs. At present these patients are being seen by the South Cotswold practices; these are patients that could be appropriately and safely managed by an Emergency Practitioner within the Cirencester Hospital MIIU environment. This is an excellent opportunity to both help ensure all services at local Practices are sustainable and resilient into the future, and help ensure integrated working between local practices and the MIIU team at Cirencester Hospital for the benefit of patients.

We would welcome feedback from our PPG members on the delivery of these new services via your Practice Manager.

With kind regards Dr Anna Kietley