

17 November 2017

Dear Sir / Madam

### **Closure of Earsdon Park Medical Practice: Important Information**

I am writing to you as a patient registered with Earsdon Park Medical Practice, based at Shiremoor Resource Centre and at the Oxford Centre, Longbenton.

The current contract for the GP practice ends on 31 March 2018, and after careful consideration NHS North Tyneside Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has taken the decision to close the GP practice.

**Earsdon Park Medical Practice will therefore close on 31 March 2018, and you will need to register with another GP practice instead.**

I am sure this is disappointing news, but I would like to give you my personal assurance that GP services will continue to be available to everyone in the area.

There are five GP practices within 1.5 miles of Shiremoor Resource Centre, including two GP practices within Shiremoor Resource Centre. There are over six GP practices within 1.5 miles of the Oxford Centre.

Unfortunately, with a relatively small number of registered patients using two sites more than five miles apart, it was unlikely that we would be able to secure a new provider to operate the service. Given the number of GP practices in close proximity it was agreed that patient needs could best be met by registering with other local GP practices.

### **How to get help to register with a new GP practice**

We are going to be holding drop-in events for Earsdon Park patients on:

- Tuesday 5 December, 3pm – 7pm at Shiremoor Resource Centre
- Wednesday 6 December, 3pm – 7pm at the Oxford Centre

Representatives from the CCG, Healthwatch and practice staff will be on hand to answer your questions and ensure that you have the right support to register with another GP practice.

If you have any questions about this event, please call 0191 217 2803 or email [necsu.comms@nhs.net](mailto:necsu.comms@nhs.net).

If you would like to speak with someone about getting help with choosing a new GP practice, please call the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on 0800 032 0202 or return the enclosed form to your GP practice.

In order to help you to register with another practice I have included a list of GP practices on the information sheet attached and hope this is useful to you. More detailed information about these and other practices is available at [www.nhs.net](http://www.nhs.net).

Healthwatch North Tyneside, the independent champion for patients, is also available to discuss any concerns or questions you may have. You can contact Healthwatch on 0191 263 5321 or email [info@healthwatchnorthtyneside.co.uk](mailto:info@healthwatchnorthtyneside.co.uk)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Matthews". The signature is written in a cursive style.

**Dr John Matthews**

Chair, NHS North Tyneside Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)

Enclosures: Information sheet and list of practices  
Registration process form  
Request for help form