



## An update on the merger so far...

2019 has been an exciting year as we took the first steps to becoming Coastal Medical Partnership! We formed a partnership on 1st April 2019 while retaining our three separate GMS contracts, and have now received approval from NHS England to fully merge our contracts from 1st April 2020. From a patient's view you may have noticed some rebranding with new logos, signs and staff uniforms; while in the background we have been busy aligning processes and learning from each other with the aim of adopting the best from all three practices as we move forward.

We are now a single 'Primary Care Network' which has allowed us to employ our Health Coach. Some of you may have met Olly during his first few months with us and we are excited to see how we can develop his role and reach more patients. He is starting off the New Year with a 'Low Carb Life' group session, helping patients to reverse pre-diabetes and improve their health.

## What's planned for 2020...

We are working hard on preparing our IT systems to merge in April. This means we will all be working on one computer system and a shared network, making it easier for us to share both back-office functions and patient care when we need to.

Continuity of care is valued extremely highly by our partnership and our patients so, for now, you will continue to be registered with your current GP and receive care in the practice you currently attend. We may look to share some of our more specialised services across sites, such as minor surgery or contraception clinics, but we will make sure you are kept up to date as any plans evolve.

We continue to expand our clinical team, having recently appointed a new Urgent Care Nurse and are currently recruiting for new GP Partners, and being a bigger more sustainable General Practice has helped us attract extremely high quality candidates!

As you will know, the different practices currently offer 'Extended Hours' during different times of the week. As this is now being contracted jointly as a 'Primary Care Network', we have taken this opportunity to look at how we can pool our resources to improve the service for our patients during extended opening hours.

## Extended Hours

From the **1st February 2020** we will be providing extended hours between

**6:30-8:00pm Monday-Thursday at The Arnewood Practice.**

**Offering a range of routine appointments with GPs, Nurses and Health Care Assistants to provide better access for patients from across Coastal Medical Partnership who struggle to attend during normal working hours.**

**Staff from all three sites will be covering these hours, so don't worry—you will still be able to see a Dr you know!**

**Bookings will be managed by your registered practice, so you can just call Reception as normal.**

**Extended hours is for pre-booked, routine care only. If you require medical attention during core hours**

**(8:00am-6:30pm) this will continue to be provided at your usual registered practice,**

**outside of these hours please**



We would like to thank all of our patients, and particularly our **Patient Participation Group** and the **Friends of Coastal Medical Partnership**, for your support during a challenging but exciting 2019. We wish you all a happy, healthy 2020!