

Our Ref: N941/20153 Date: 20 January 2016

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Dear Mr Heaton-Harris

Re: Danetre Medical Practice Services

Thank you for your letter dated 19 October 2015 raising a number of concerns from your constituents who are registered at Danetre Medical Practice. NHS Nene Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has received formal notification from Danetre Medical Practice that they no longer wish to provide phlebotomy services. We will soon commence a review of all the commissioned phlebotomy services across the county delivered by providers in primary, community and secondary care settings. We are committed to ensure that all our patients have access to local services and will endeavour to ensure these are continued, although they may need to be provided at alternative sites in Daventry. We expect the surgery to continue offering these services and we will be working with them over the next couple of months to ensure our patient have access to convenient and local services.

Dr Darin Seiger, Chair Nene Clinical Commissioning Group and colleagues from the CCG recently attended the practice participation group meeting 12 October 2015 and discussed the issues raised by our constituents. Dr Darin Seiger provided assurances that we are keen to listen to our patient's views and any changes to services will be consulted on. In addition we visited the practice again on the 26 November 2015 to hold further discussions. This resulted in NHS England and NHS Nene CCG writing to the practice recommending a further meeting to discuss this in more detail.

NHS England is engaged in a programme of reviewing all Personal Medical Services (PMS) contracts. Although this is being led locally it is a compulsory programme from a national perspective based on a government directive. The principle of the PMS review is to ensure that every GP practice across the country receives the same core funding and that all practices are offered the opportunity to secure further funding to provide additional services, whilst reflecting NHS England and Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) strategic plans.

The outcome from the review will result in most PMS practices experiencing a reduction in their funding, although the impact of this will be phased over a five year period commencing April 2016. Funding freed up will be reinvested into primary care services from the CCG area in which it was released and will commence on the 1 April 2016. The monies being removed were historically provided within the PMS contract however in subsequent years have also been paid for by other routes such as Enhanced Services or Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF). This resulted in practices being paid twice. In most cases the PMS funding being removed has no link to the list of services referred to within the patient correspondence.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact us. I hope this letter has addressed the concerns raised by your constituents and appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback to you. This allows us to address issues as they arise and continue to develop services that meet the needs of service users in Northamptonshire.

Yours sincerely

John Wardell

Accountable Officer