

Teignmouth Primary Care -

Devon Overview and Scrutiny Committee

24 March 2025

Teignmouth GP practices explore potential merger to strengthen practice resilience

Channel View Medical Group and Teign Estuary Medical Group have been working side by side for many years, providing primary care services for over 22,500 patients in the Teignmouth area.

Two partners of Teign Estuary are due to retire at the end of May 2025 and the two practices have been exploring options for their future to ensure their sustainability and resilience.

NHS Devon has had some preliminary discussions with the practices about this. The practices have begun briefing patients, staff and local stakeholders about what this would mean. If we receive an application, the formal and regulatory process which could take a few months, will commence.

Should the merger go ahead, patients would not need to take any action, and they would see no change to how they access appointments, the clinical and administrative staff they see or services available at any of the six surgery sites.

Primary care estates

NHS Devon met with Teignbridge District Council on 10 February as a follow-up to the 10 December meeting. The Council's Deputy Leader and the Head of Assets attended.

The main part of the discussion was a comprehensive explanation of why building just on the Brunswick South site was not viable for the NHS (concerns regarding size, land contamination, right to light and flood risks).

There was a general acceptance of our need to build a new primary care facility (by March 2028) and suitability of Brunswick North, and the Deputy Leader re-confirmed the Council's support. Discussions are ongoing with the council regarding the suitability of both the Brunswick North and South sites.

The project team is reviewing financing/funding options and will prepare a proposal for consideration by the Council and the hope is a meeting will be arranged in the next 4-6 weeks.

Channel View practice and NHS Devon have met with the Health and Wellbeing Centre architects, Corstophine and Wright, to explore the potential for them to act as architects for the new scheme and to novate across their previous work (including planning surveys). A proposal has been requested to ensure retaining them provides appropriate value for money.

£75k Minor Improvement Grant (MIG) funding has been allocated to the practice from 2024/25 and several projects are underway to improve current estate.

ENDS