

As senior partner at 63 Lincoln Road Peterborough I feel that I should register support for the strategy policy and consultation process undertaken by NHS Peterborough - The Right Care at the Right Time.

3Well's complaint is clearly a well prepared and drafted document but it is open to considerable debate and counterpoint. However, ourselves and North Street surgeries have made a conscious decision not to get too involved in the politics of Alma Road surgery closing. We feel it unfortunate that this issue has become inextricably linked to the future development of our two surgeries and of others. We fear it may lead to a missed opportunity which may not come again for many years, to improve healthcare for the people of Peterborough. That, however, is the reality of the current financial situation. Nonetheless, we feel it is clear that Alma Road is a duplication of services available elsewhere and whilst its 'out of hours' care is greatly valued by some, it is an expensive facility used by the few for a myriad of complaints, many of which cannot be described as 'urgent' or justifying such expense.

We believe, without investment, our surgery at 63 Lincoln Road will face closure in the immediate future, if not by the CQC, then by retirement of partners and an inability to recruit new doctors to substandard premises not fit for purpose. I personally believe this is an absolute truth and will leave over 11000 patients, many in the most deprived central wards seeking provision of primary care services and that the current infrastructure and providers would not be able to cope with this outcome.

We believe that NHS Peterborough has developed a well thought out and logical solution to the current needs of Peterborough in their 'Right Care at the Right Time' strategy document under Option 3. We also believe that NHS Peterborough has been fair, open and honest in their consultation process and would commend them for the way they have involved stakeholders.

The closure of Alma Road is clearly an emotive issue, but looking at the greater good for the healthcare of patients in the deprived wards of Peterborough, not just in the short term, but the long term, we believe this is an historic opportunity to provide a medical facility with a new approach to the health and well being of our patients.

Yours

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