

15th November 2021

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www.marplecottage.co.uk

Dear Patient,

Intention to merge Marple Cottage Surgery and Guywood Practice, Romiley

We are writing to inform our patients that we are planning to merge with Guywood Practice in Romiley. Over the last 12 months both practices have been working together and have supported each other during the pandemic. We are now ready to formally merge into one Practice contract.

Why are we merging?

As you know we have worked hard to provide high quality services for our patients, always focusing on providing good access to appointments and continuously seeking to improve.

We have consistently demonstrated high quality clinical care in our prescribing, vaccination and screening achievement, alongside good appointment access and patient satisfaction, all of which has been recognized when we were awarded an Outstanding rating by the Care Quality Commission.

However, we have learnt through the pandemic that to continue to develop and improve our standards of care and access we need to improve the resilience of service provision for our patients. Therefore by merging practices and creating a larger Practice team, across two sites, we hope to improve team cover and support during times of illness or absence. This should also help manage increasing demand for appointments, whilst aligning our back office and management functions should ensure our systems and processes will be more effective and responsiveness to patient care.

We have collaborated with Guywood Practice for over twelve months, and share a common ethos and vision for providing continuity of patient care. Together we feel we will be a stronger Practice.

Improvements for patients

We do not anticipate any obvious change to service provision for our patients, and will continue to provide the same hours of service. The main benefit will be that patients will be given the opportunity to book appointments at either site (subject to services available) and have access to services and / or specialist clinical skills at Romiley site e.g. IUD service.

Next steps

In the first instance the proposed merger has to be approved by Stockport CCG, but prior to this we would welcome all comments and questions regarding the merger.

To do this we would ask you to either:

- Send a letter via post, or via Reception, for the attention of Johan Taylor, Managing Partner; or
- Email the practice at stoccg.marplecottagesupport@nhs.net.

We will be collating any common questions and answers and post them on the Practice website for patients to review.

Thank you for your support and help developing the future of the Practice as we look forward to the future with great optimism.

Yours sincerely



Dr Andrew Johnson



Dr Maher Al-Ausi



Dr Sam Wise



Mr J Taylor