**NEW SURGERY DEVELOPMENT PROPOSED FOR NEETSIDE SURGERY**

The Neetside Surgery partners are pleased to share a proposed idea **to build a new surgery**. As the town continues to thrive, the numbers of patients at the surgery have grown with each passing year. The hope is to expand into new premises to future-proof the surgery’s capacity and to meet the town’s growing healthcare needs.

This opportunity provides a way to ensure that we can attend to growing patient numbers, address health inequalities with an increasing elderly population, and meet the needs of those with long-term health conditions. It is also a great opportunity to look at how we deliver services, how we can further improve them and what new provision we can offer our patients and the community. The project under discussion will also enable us to increase our support and training of clinical and non-clinical staff. These are the GPs and nurses of tomorrow and we want to provide a sustainable working space for them too. Neetside Surgery is not only a surgery, it’s a place that we work, it’s a place our patients feel safe and we have as much passion as you do about keeping those qualities, improving and offering new, beneficial services.

We are still in the very early stages of the process but wanted to start sharing what was being proposed as soon as we could, to assure people that any options being considered will be openly conveyed to our patients.

Providing accessible, quality healthcare services continue to remain at the heart of our practice. We are not at a stage where we can share more detailed plans with our patients, but, when we are, we would really welcome further engagement and feedback. We want to work with you about how best to develop a patient engagement plan and we will update you all as the process progresses, when we reach this stage. As already mentioned, we are still in the **very early stages** of the process with a long way yet to go. We love the building that we work from now and will all be sad to leave it when that time comes, but we now need to consider other options in order to continue to offer the wide variety of NHS services at our disposal and at a capacity that fits our patient need.

Building better healthcare and having a fit-for-purpose surgery for both our patients, staff and the wider community will be an exciting time for all of us. We want to do this together with you all.

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