**Frequently Asked Questions - Proposed merger of Hove Park Villas Surgery with Trinity Medical Centre**

**What is the proposed change?**

As you may already know, Dr Alex Mancey-Barratt decided last year to retire from general practice, after 24 years’ service at Hove Park Villas Surgery. Since then, the practice has not been successful in finding a new GP partner and it is not possible for Dr Beecham to manage the surgery safely on her own. After discussions between Hove Park Villas and Trinity Medical Centre, in order to protect patients from a surgery closure, we believe the best outcome for patients, staff and GPs is to merge the two surgeries with effect from 1st October 2018.

**Why is this change being proposed?**

After 2 years, it has not been possible to recruit a GP partner to take over from Dr Mancey-Barratt and, instead of closing the surgery all together, the proposal is Hove Park Villas staff and GPs continue to provide the care to Hove Park Villas patients by merging with and moving to the more modern, fit-for-purpose Trinity Medical Centre. The Hove Park Villas building is no longer considered a suitable clinical environment to meet the standards for modern general practice. The site will no longer be available to use by the NHS from October 2018.

**How many patients do Hove Park Villas have?**

There are 4,300 patients and whilst we would expect that the majority remain with Trinity once the transfer of records is complete, patients are free to register at any applicable, alternative practice if they so wish

**Will the Trinity Practice have enough capacity to take on the Hove Park Villas patients?**

Trinity Practiceis taking on new clinical and non-clinical staff to meet the needs of the increase in practice size. Furthermore, the majority of clinical and non-clinical staff from Hove Park Villas are moving to the merged practice.

A full review is being undertaken to support an increase in appointments and improving the ways in which a patient can access the practice including improving telephone access

We are currently reviewing different technology solutions make it easier to get through on the telephone to book an appointment or deal with a query

**When will these proposed changes take place?**

* We would like to hear from you on this proposed changes prior to the 20th of May 2018
* Once we have your feedback, the options will be presented to the Primary Care Commissioning Committee of the Brighton and Hove Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), where a final decision will be made on the proposed merger and site closure on the 12th June 2018.
* Patients will be informed of the final decision during the week of the 18th of June 2018 via the practice website <https://trinitymedicalcentrehove.co.uk/> and on notices in the waiting rooms

**How can I give my input into the proposed changes?**

* **BY POST**: You can send a letter marked ‘Merger’, to the following address prior to the 20th of May 2018. :

Trinity Medical Centre

1 Goldstone Villas

Hove

BN3 3AT

* **BY EMAIL**: to bhccg.thetrinitymedicalcentre@nhs.net with ‘Merger’ written in the subject heading

Please note that we will not be able to provide individual responses to all queries. Your input will be taken and summarised and used as the basis for our future decision making.

*Please do not include personal medical information/clinical requests in any correspondence on the proposed merger, as the information will be shared with the Brighton and Hove Clinical Commissioning Group, who will make the final decision on the merger*