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Dear Councillor Illingworth

RE: GP Services at Woodlands Surgery

Following on from my letter dated the 22 October 2013, I am writing to update you on the future of Woodlands Surgery.

In my previous letter to you I said that the management of the practice had been taken over on an interim basis by St Martin's Practice. NHS England has now taken the decision to close Woodlands Surgery with effect from the 6 December. The enclosed document provides more information as to why this decision was taken.

Ensuring patients have access to high quality local primary care services is a priority for NHS England. We worked with the Woodlands Surgery over the last few years to support them in improving the care they offered to patients and have not taken the decision to close the practice lightly.

Patients will still be able to receive treatment at Woodlands Surgery until 6 December but after that the surgery will be closed. Patients will need to register with another GP. A letter and information document has been circulated to all the patients from Woodlands Surgery which advises them on how to register with an alternative GP practice.

Patients will need to register with a new GP practice by 6 December 2013. If patients have been unable to register by that date, then NHS England will automatically allocate them to another local GP practice.

There are a number of practices within a mile of the Woodlands Surgery site. We have spoken to all of these practices and they have all confirmed that they have capacity to register patients from Woodlands Surgery.

If you have any questions about this letter then please do not hesitate to contact a member of the primary care team at NHS England (West Yorkshire) on 0113 8252700 and we will provide you with the further information you need.

Yours sincerely



Alison Knowles
Director of Commissioning
NHS England (West Yorkshire)