

Press Release

28 January 2020

Routine evening and weekend GP appointments available this winter

Worcestershire residents are reminded that routine appointments are available across the county at primary care services in the evenings and at weekends.

These appointments are available between 6.30pm – 8pm on weekdays and at certain times at the weekend. If you need one of these appointments, you can pre-book by contacting your surgery during its opening hours. These extended access appointments are, either at the practice itself, or a nearby hub practice, where GPs, nurses and healthcare assistants offer routine appointments. If the practice is closed there is information on its website with telephone numbers for the hubs if a patient needs to book a routine appointment.

The three Worcestershire Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) - NHS Redditch and Bromsgrove, NHS South Worcestershire and NHS Wyre Forest - introduced the national Improved Access scheme to provide more choice, greater convenience and increased access to GP and nurse appointments outside of normal working hours.

Lynda Dando, Director of Primary Care for the three Worcestershire CCGs, said: “We’re pleased to be able to offer this service to assist those patients who struggle to access GP or nurse appointments during the day.

“However, a lot of these extra appointments aren’t being used, as patients don’t know they are available. We would encourage patients to get in touch with their surgery to find out more if they need book outside of normal working hours. This is a great example of how primary care is evolving across Worcestershire, as we strive to continue to offer the best services possible for our residents.”

If you require urgent treatment out of normal opening hours and it’s not an emergency, call NHS 111 who can talk you through your healthcare options, including access to Out of Hours GP appointments.

You can find out more about Improved Access appointments at www.worcestershire.nhs.uk/winter/extended-access

Notes to editors:

- For more information about NHS Redditch and Bromsgrove CCG Clinical Commissioning Group please visit: www.redditchandbromsgroveccg.nhs.uk
- For more information about NHS South Worcestershire Clinical Commissioning Group please visit: www.southworcccg.nhs.uk

Sent on behalf of:

NHS Redditch and Bromsgrove CCG, NHS South Worcestershire CCG and NHS Wyre Forest CCG

- For more information about NHS Wyre Forest Clinical Commissioning Group please visit: www.wyreforestccg.nhs.uk

For further information please contact:

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Sent on behalf of:

NHS Redditch and Bromsgrove CCG, NHS South Worcestershire CCG and NHS Wyre Forest CCG