

PRESS RELEASE

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**COMMUNITY FEEDBACK FROM HYWEL DDA UNIVERSITY HEALTHBOARD
DROP-IN SESSION RE FUTURE OF SOLVA SURGERY**

A significant number of concerned community members attended the Hywel Dda University Healthboard (H DUHB) drop-in session at Solva Memorial Hall on Tuesday 24 January 2023. A large team of NHS staff was there to give information and answer questions.

The perception among patients was mixed. Many came away with the impression that H DUHB did not think the Practice was viable and wanted to disperse the patients to St Davids, Fishguard and Haverfordwest, whilst others felt confident that GP services would continue to be offered in Solva for the immediate future as part of a managed practice.

There was strong support for the exciting idea of a Health and Care Hub put forward by the community, but discussion seemed to be dominated by concerns over timescales, numbers and finance rather than people and their well-being.

In response to H DUHB calls for a business plan, the Surgery Working Group will shortly publish a paper outlining deliverable and practical solutions to address the continued provision of GP Services in Solva and the surrounding area. Its aims are to deliver solutions for improving the health of the wider community in the St Davids Peninsula, and for enhancing services, and making them more responsive to the needs of the population. Promisingly, H DUHB Chair, Maria Battle has asked to meet with the Working Group.

Sue Denman, Chair of the Surgery Working Group said “Our immediate priorities are to engage and consult with key health and social care stakeholders and service providers to further understand the issues and opportunities surrounding healthcare on the Peninsula. The next meeting to update our community will be on Tuesday 7 February at 17:30 in Solva Memorial Hall.”

Notes to Editors

The Surgery Working Group is led by Solva Community Council. It aims to preserve the GP service in Solva, strengthen primary care and integrate and co-ordinate with preventative activities. It is chaired by Sue Denman, emeritus professor at the Cardiff School of Medicine. Its membership is drawn from the local community and includes other medical professionals and former NHS directors alongside members of the local community.

Further information about the Solva Surgery Working Group can be found at <https://solva.gov.wales/solva-community-council/>

H DUHB has mailed a questionnaire to registered patients of Solva Surgery. The questionnaire is available to complete online (closing date 4 February 2023). https://www.haveyoursay.hduhb.wales.nhs.uk/solva-surgery-the-future-of-services-for-registered-patients/survey_tools/questionnaire11

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