**Central Surgery PPG**

**Virtual Meeting 18 January 2021**

Present: Christine Lloyd, Margaret Treadway, John Vousden, Rattan Rattan, Clyde Sanders, Barbara Riebold, Vivian Mangan, Chris Gasper

Apologies: Julie Chambers

**Covid Vaccinations**

Members had been very impressed with the first Covid vaccination sessions in which the surgery reception staff had been involved. They passed their thanks to all for their efforts and ensuing the process had run so smoothly.

There is a massive team, including Primary Care Networks (PCN) staff, moving around the area including home visits where necessary. A pharmacist is on site at the Salvation Army centre.

All vaccinations for over 80’s were completed and over 75’s had been invited. Christine had spent 3 ½ days ringing round patients. Only 3 had refused the vaccine.

NHS staff had been vaccinated.

**Surgery Changes**

An associate practitioner had left the PCN. A Shoebury surgery had closed and all patients transferred to other surgeries.

**Patients using a foreign language**

Patients using a foreign language can have difficulty in being understood at the surgery. A multilinguistic member offered to help if needed.

**Effects of Lockdown**

There was discussion of our experiences under lockdown. Isolation and loneliness could be an issue. A member offered to speak to others regularly to keep in touch.

The PCN Social Prescriber, Paula Dunley, is able to help patients with loneliness and has a number of local contacts. The surgery can refer patients to Paula.

**Southend Foodbanks**

The Surgery has contact with a foodbank and can deliver items left at the surgery. Regular donations had been delivered. It was mentioned that Storehouse Foodbank would also take financial donations that can be directed to specific items. The contact number is 01702 617348. Storehouse run by The Southend Vineyard Centre, 01702 612900. There is a link to Southend Foodbank on the Surgery Website.

**Mid and South Essex Partnership Board**

Chris advised that since the Service User Group had finished looking at the merger of the 3 hospitals, his position as Patient Representative on the Partnership Board had finished in December. The Board intends opening monthly meetingsto the public, 4 times a year and publish minutes of the meetings.

**Southend Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) Patient and Community Group**

Chris represents the Surgery patients’ on this group that meets every 2 months. The CCG staff are now heavily involved with the Covid vaccination programme but are still holding meetings. The December meeting included a commitment to look at Public Engagement within the developing local structures, and bring suggestions to a future meeting.

**Next Meeting**

It was agreed to hold the next meeting on Monday 22 March at 1.00 PM via MS Team.