



PATIENT INFORMATION LEAFLET

The Swan Medical Group is delighted to announce its plans to merge with Liphook & Liss surgery.

We are acting now to pool our resources and clinical expertise to ensure the long-term sustainability of our practices. It has been widely reported in the media that the NHS is facing a particularly challenging time, having to deal with an increasingly ageing population with more complex health needs. It is not just demands for our services which are increasing, there are also increasing demands on the limited NHS budget, which can only stretch so far. With problems both locally and nationally in recruiting GPs and nurses to work in General Practice, this merger will enable us to look at how we can stabilise, extend and expand locally our already offered services and how – and when – you access them.

As a patient, you will remain registered with your current registered GP, but will soon have access to a wider variety of services and clinical staff between Liphook, Liss and Petersfield. We believe it to be the best way to ensure that we continue to provide the best service we can to you.

We see the key reasons and benefits of the merger as:

1. Improved resilience of NHS services in the locality so we can continue to provide high quality general practice services and also allow us to extend services in the future.
2. Patients will continue to have access to extended hours as well as their existing early morning surgeries. In addition, patients will have greater access to acute, planned and preventative care.
3. Access to a larger number of GPs as there are more Partners as well as salaried GPs offering resilience in day to day and long-term care.
4. Improved access to a highly skilled nursing team offering improved long term condition management for conditions such as asthma, COPD and diabetes.
5. Improved IT systems and telephony supporting a more efficient organisation, which will allow economies of scale by sharing back-office functions and practice administration.

Our current surgeries in Petersfield & Liphook will remain open providing care for you, but you will also be able to access services at Liphook & Liss Surgeries. We will look to extend a consistent approach across all sites for our services, with best practice being shared across the newly merged group in the months ahead. We anticipate that the merger will take 12-18 months to fully complete, but we will be one organisation from April 2022.

In a joint statement, Dr Andrew Holden of the Swan Surgery, and Dr Suzy Holden of Liphook & Liss Surgery said, *“This is a really positive and exciting announcement at a time of significant pressure for the NHS. Our practices share the same vision for the future, which is to facilitate an outstanding service to our expanding patient populations. We hope this will create a more resilient organisation so we can continue to deliver a high standard of care into the future.”*

Anyone wishing to raise any concerns can write to or email Emily Spalding, Practice Business Manager, email: sehccg.swanmedicalgroup@nhs.net , or via the telephone on 01730 264011.