**Statement on proposed coming together of Albion Street Surgery and St Peter’s Medical Centre**

***Where can I find more information:***

**In Practices**: Please ask our reception teams for a feedback form. This can be filled out anonymously if you wish. You do not need to give us any personal information if you choose not to but please provide this if you wish for a response.

**By Email**: Please email either bhccg.clinicalstpeters@nhs.net or albionstreetsurgery@nhs.net

**By Letter**: Please write to us at your usual practice address, and mark it for the attention of the Practice Manager

**By Phone**: You can contact us via the practice mobile phones, which are only to be used for this purpose:

Albion St : 07873399487 St Peter’s Medical Centre: 07562017040

There are **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)** on our websites as well as opportunities to email in any queries or comments you have or phone our teams.

The contact details for both GP practices are:

Albion Street Website: www.albionstreetsurgery.co.uk Phone: 07873399487 (for practice merger queries only please) Email: albionstreetsurgery@nhs.net

St Peter’s Medical Centre: Website: www.stpetersmedicalcentre.co.uk Phone: 07562017040 (for practice merger queries only please) Email: bhccg.clinicalstpeters@nhs.net

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**Dear Patients**

We, the Partners and staff at Albion Street Surgery and St Peters Medical Centre, two well-established local GP practices, are pleased to announce we are merging. We believe it is an excellent opportunity to improve the way we work and to develop services for you - our patients.

The merger will see our two GP practices formally coming together on 1 October 2021. We will continue to provide you medical help and support from both sites, with the Albion Street building operating as a branch surgery of the new joint practice for the current time. Longer term, as you may be aware, we are building new premises on the St Peter’s Medical Centre site. The building work commences this month, and is due for completion in the summer of 2023.

There is no need for patients who were registered at either GP practice to do anything when the merger takes place. You will now be registered with the newly formed practice and we will continue to provide you with medical help and support.

Under the proposal for the practices to come together, patients will still be able to book appointments with their current clinician, subject to availability, and the merged practice will strive to maintain continuity of care where possible.

St Peter’s and Albion Street’s patients will be able to access a wider range of health care professionals and will be less reliant on seeing locum GPs. With a larger practice team, there may be an opportunity to increase provision of services even further and strengthen what we can offer patients locally.

Once the new premises development is complete, there will be more available space, including a health education room for group consultations and learning events. There will also be opportunities to work more closely with our mental health trust, Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, to offer care and support closer to home. These plans follow extensive discussions between the local Clinical Commissioning Group and Partners on the future of the practices.

Our CCG makes every effort to support local General Practice services, which we know are facing the same pressures as those reported from around England. The CCG and practice partners understand patients may have suggestions or questions and we would like to hear from you. Please contact us via phone, email or in person, using the information listed at the top of this statement.

With kind regards

**The Partners**

**Albion Street Surgery & St Peter’s Medical Centre**