

PRESCOTT SURGERY PATIENT NEWSLETTER

Premises Update July & August 2025

**Latest News from The Surgery – From Nick Storey, Business Manager
Jackie Jones, Chair, The Patient Participation Group.**

Update regarding the Surgery Premises Project

At the end of June, Nick Storey and I met with Councillor Robert Jones to bring him up to date on matters regarding the surgery premises project. Robert has given his commitment to support the project and to participate in the relevant meetings. I thank Robert for his enthusiasm and his time.

In May I wrote to the NHS Chief Executive of Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin Integrated Care Board (ICB). This was following on from a letter the Rt. Honourable Helen Morgan MP has also sent to him. With the support of Nick Storey, I invited CEO Simon Whitehouse to visit Prescott Surgery and meet with the partners, Nick and myself. I am pleased to say that Mr Whitehouse agreed and a date has been secured for July. There is a lot to discuss regarding new premises, the NHS 10 year plan, future services to patients and the financial element of building a new practice. I will provide an update after his visit.

Surgery Matters

The **Flu and Covid** vaccine season will soon be upon us and Nick Storey provides further information for you in this newsletter. One point that is essential our patients understand is that it is important to the practice that you receive your vaccines at Prescott Surgery. The reason for this is that the Flu/Covid vaccine campaign is an opportunity for the practice to earn more money, which the surgery then invests back into patient care. If you go to a pharmacy then the practice loses out in receiving the income from the NHS. If you are eligible for Flu or Covid vaccines, please have them at the surgery.

Jenni Green – Patient Services and Quality Lead

Jenni Green is the Patient Services and Quality Lead at the practice. Behind the scenes Jenni works hard to ensure the practice operates efficiently and effectively in a number of areas. Jenni has also been in attendance at all patient group meetings providing input, contribution and acting on issues to improve services to patients. Jenni will be leaving at the end of July to start a new position in another practice. I would like to thank Jenni on behalf of the Patient Group and all patients she has indirectly supported, for her hard work, her enthusiasm and dedication to the practice. I will certainly miss Jenni because she has made my role as Chair of the Patient Group easier by always acting on everything I have asked of her.

Congratulations on your new role Jenni and you will be missed!

Jackie Jones, Chair - Prescott Surgery Patient Group
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Flu & Covid Vaccinations Autumn & Winter 2025 (by Nick Storey)

Here we go again. It seems as if it was only a few weeks ago that I was writing to you about our plans for the autumn flu and covid vaccine campaign for 2024.

NHS England have confirmed the plans for 2025 and there is a change to the covid vaccine entitlement. **This autumn the covid vaccine will only be available to patients aged 75 and over as well as to our patients who are immunosuppressed and to older patients in care homes.** This is very different from last year when it was available to healthcare workers and patients aged 65 and over as well as to all patients in care homes.

As with previous years the flu vaccine will be available to patients aged 65 and over and to patients 18-64 years old who have a chronic health condition. For more information on eligibility for the flu vaccine please visit www.nhs.uk/vaccinations/flu-vaccine/

The flu and covid vaccines will be available to all providers from 1st October. The only exception to this will be for our patients who are pregnant. We will be running dedicated flu/covid vaccine clinics on Saturday 4th October and on Saturday 11th October. In early September, **we will contact eligible patients to book appointments.** It is important to us that you receive your vaccines here at the surgery. The reason for this is that the flu/covid vaccine campaign is an opportunity for us in general practice to earn more money which we then invest back into patient care. Every vaccine that is received at a pharmacy reduces our income.

Pharmabox24

We are in the final stages of planning the installation of the Pharmabox automated medication collection point. Indeed, preparatory internal works have already started. We hope to introduce the service in mid-August.

Prior to that we will send our patients a short questionnaire to;

- 1) enable you to sign up to the service
- 2) ensure that the record of your prescription payment exemption status that we hold, is correct. This is to ensure that patients are not incorrectly charged for their medication or possibly, undercharged. As prescription exemptions are set by NHS Business Authority, failing to pay for medication on prescription attracts a substantial fine over which, we have no control. So, we must get it right.

We will then follow that up with detailed information about what can and can't be placed by us into the collection point. For example, controlled drugs as well as certain inhalers, insulins and liquid antibiotics that are required to be refrigerated will not be loaded into the collection point.

Finally, we will of course be advising you of the process and instructions on how to use the collection point.

When we go live, we plan to start slowly over the first few weeks to make sure that everything works before gradually extending it to all appropriate patients.

Jenni Green

It is with sadness that I announce that Jenni Green will be leaving Prescott Surgery to take up a post at a surgery closer to her home. We will miss Jenni and her contribution to the care that our patients receive, and I am sure that you will join me in wishing Jenni every success for the future.

Nick Storey, Business Manager

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