

Frequently asked questions (FAQs)

Why is the surgery closing?

The future of general practice is moving towards larger Practices and networks to improve resilience and support a wider provision of services. It has become increasingly difficult for the Partners to sustain a small Practice such as Grosvenor Place Surgery, providing personal care for local families.

Over the past few years we have explored a number of options for the surgery including new partners, merging with other practices and contract take overs, but this has not been successful.

Dr Howse and Dr Davidson have always planned to retire, at this time. They are GP partners in the practice and this means that they effectively own the business that is the surgery. As owners, when they retire the business closes.

Have you tried to get new GPs in to keep the surgery open?

Over the past few years we have explored a number of options to keep the surgery open.

There is a national shortage of GPs and to keep the surgery open we would have to find someone willing to not just work as a GP but also to take over the business responsibilities of the practice. With the pressures on small practices such as ours, this is not always attractive to other GPs.

When Grosvenor closes will I have to complete a new registration form with another practice?

No, you will not have to complete any forms, your records and patient information will be transferred to your new practice in a secure way.

We are working with the BaNES, Swindon and Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group (BSW CCG) to manage the transfer of our patients to other practices in Bath before the end of March 2021. The CCG have identified practices in the area that are able to register Grosvenor Place Surgery patients and they look forward to welcoming you in due course.

You will receive another letter, telling you who your new GP practice will be and when your records and information will be transferred to them. You can of course choose to register with any other practice with an open list after this.

In the meantime, you should continue to consult us at Grosvenor Place Surgery, in the usual way, if you need to. We are still open, providing all our usual services within the limitations COVID-19 has brought to us all.

It can be hard to get into a new GP surgery – how do I know there will be a place for me somewhere else?

The Clinical Commissioning Group has talked to all the other practices in Bath and we know there are places at almost all of them. You will only be transferred to a practice that is able to carry on supporting your health care.

You will receive a letter telling you which practice you are being transferred to and when; and you can be assured that they are ready to welcome you.

When will I know which practice I am being transferred to?

As soon as your new practice has been agreed the Clinical Commissioning Group will write to you to inform you.

We are working with the BaNES, Swindon and Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group (BSW CCG) to manage the transfer of our patients to other practices in Bath before the end of March 2021.

To make this process as smooth as possible, the CCG won't be transferring all our patients at the same time. Taking a gradual, managed approach means we can continue to operate effectively over the next few months and the other practices in Bath have the time they need to get the new patients settled in.

How will the CCG decide which practice I will be transferred to?

The other practices in Bath are aware that Grosvenor Place Surgery is closing. They have been working with the CCG and are preparing to take on new patients within their catchment area, so you will be allocated to a practice close to your home.

What if I don't want to go to the surgery you have transferred me to?

You always have a choice about which GP practice you are registered with.

Once you have been allocated a new practice, you can still choose to register at a different practice. There will be time to do that before your records are transferred so you don't need to make any decisions now.

How will I request my repeat medications?

When you are transferred to a new surgery, all your records including information on your medication will go to the new surgery and you will continue to get your prescriptions when you need them. You will be able to request your repeat medication in the same way as you do now. Your new practice should automatically register you for online access if this is something you currently have.

Will I have to change pharmacy?

No you can continue to use the same pharmacy.

How will it affect my ability to get a COVID-19 vaccine?

The closure will not affect your access to a COVID-19 vaccine when this becomes available. The current guidance is that the government will write to patients to inform them of when they will become eligible for their vaccination as it will be released in phases.

What will happen to the premises?

It is planned to convert the premises for residential use.

What should I do if I have further questions about the closure?

Please contact the Clinical Commissioning Group BSWCCG.feedback@nhs.net