

# ANNA SOUBRY MP

Member of Parliament for Broxtowe

## NEWSLETTER



August 23rd

Hello again,

I have some bad news regarding the Kimberley Medical Centre. After a great effort from patients and staff Nottinghamshire Primary Care Trust (PCT) decided not to close the Centre but instead put it out to tender as a branch surgery. Thirteen GP practises expressed an interest but only one visited the surgery which had been run as a single GP surgery by Dr. Sandhu.

Unfortunately, no practice has come forward to take over the surgery now Dr Sandhu has retired. This is a great shame as it means the PCT will fall back on its original decision and disperse the patients in the next three months. The PCT has written to all patients and says they will make sure the dispersal is done efficiently and as speedily as possible.

I have expressed my disappointment, as you might imagine, to the PCT and have particularly asked that the staff are properly cared for and given as much assistance as is possible; I'm concerned that some of them are still owed over-time payments.

Most of us had campaigned for the surgery to stay open and urged the PCT to enable a new GP to be found to take over from Dr. Sandhu. It was certainly the view of the overwhelming majority of patients. I was also of the view there was a good argument that the town and surrounding area could support a two GP surgery. I haven't changed my mind.

The PCT was clearly concerned about the buildings on Regent Street and the fact Dr Sandhu owns them. They took considerable persuasion to go for the "branch" option.

In the event no surgery came forward and as much as we are all disappointed and some are angry and upset, we cannot make another GP practice take over the Medical Centre.

**I will continue to work with the Patients Group at the Medical Centre to make sure there were no flaws in the tender process and that the PCT conducted themselves fairly and properly.**

What I have also done, is to ask the PCT to review all the surgeries in the area. I am told that another single GP surgery may also close which would mean many thousands of patients would be looking to be "dispersed" and the PCT must be confident there is capacity in other local surgeries.

I will let you know of their response. The PCT is set to meet again in September.

With best wishes  
Anna Soubry MP

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