

Stiffkey Parish Council Public Consultation Response

Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care Board (ICB) – Changes to services in Norfolk and Waveney

Norwich Walk In Centre

Stiffkey Parish Council supports the continued funding of the Walk in Centre in the absence of comprehensive GP services. While we support the idea that total closure could provide more funding for GP practices, we would not support the closure of the Walk in Centre until such a time that GP practices are providing more comprehensive services to their patients. Given the options available, we would therefore reluctantly support Option B – Keep the Norwich Walk-in Centre open but reduce the opening hours and spend £750,000 more on GP practices across Norfolk and Waveney, using a fairer funding formula.

GP out of Hours Services

Stiffkey Parish Council would argue that in many cases, out of hours GP services are not accessed because patients are generally unaware they exist and use A&E instead. We would not be in favour of any changes to the current system and number of bases in operation. We would like to comment that the data provided does not help us form a particularly educated opinion as it only gives general data and no detail in terms of times/days of when services are accessed. Given that the ICB intend to make changes, regardless, we would tentatively support Option A – Reduce the number of bases for face-to-face appointments from nine bases to five bases during the week and six bases at the weekend.

Vulnerable Adults Service Health Inclusion Hub

Stiffkey Parish Council is mindful that any vulnerable adults service will always be challenged by its geographic location and potentially the demographic most likely to need such a service. In the absence of data to support either option proposed, we would support Option B – Create a team that goes to different communities across Norfolk and Waveney to provide the service and close the base in Norwich. While it would be unfortunate to close the Norwich base, an outreach model would, in our view, support more members of rural communities who would otherwise have little access. We do, however, have some concern that the absence of the based in Norwich could lead to more pressure being placed on the NNUH.