**Meeting to discuss the potential co-location of Parsonage Surgery & South Street Surgery at Herts & Essex Hospital**

Our PPG / Patients met on 09.01.19 to discuss GP premises issues in Bishops Stortford. During this meeting we discussed & viewed the proposed plans of East & North Herts Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) relating to the potential co-location of Parsonage Surgery & South Street Surgery within the Kitwood Unit at Herts & Essex Hospital.

**Summary of comments from patients following PPG meeting on 09.01.19 re potential co-location**

* Plans offer short term solution – but not looking far enough into future needs of Bishops Stortford which is expanding at a rapid rate.
* Planned space too small to accommodate both surgeries needs - not enough space to support the anticipated long term growth of Bishop's Stortford
* Moving South Street surgery away from the town centre, is a bad thing as it will deprive many if their patients of a “local” surgery.  - Co-location of 2 practices on one site away from the town centre makes no sense from the point of view of providing convenient primary care services for the local population.  Mums with prams and pushchairs, the elderly and those who are less mobile will struggle to get to the Herts & Essex hospital site
* More consideration needs to be given by the local planning authority regarding the provision of premises for GP’s surgeries, insisting that developers of large sites include such facilities. Does the CCG talk to the local councils regarding this matter?
* More surgeries are needed near the population centres and particularly where new houses are being built, such as near the station rather than consolidating three of them in one, out of town, site.
* The proposed layout with the two surgery’s reception and waiting areas being next to each other will create confusion, they should be located apart.
* Will there be sufficient consulting rooms etc for the needs of the next 12+years?
* More patients travelling to the hospital will create many problems for the local roads; the car parking facilities will not be able to cope, at times now it is difficult to find a space. Parking provision is insufficient at this site
* Public transport to the hospital is very limited.

**Further options to be explored:**

* Parsonage move into Child Health Department, South Street & potentially Haymeads / other services take over the restructured space that Parsonage currently occupy.
* Parsonage explore options for space in new developments nearby
* How can Uttlesford help to relieve pressure?  There are so many houses being built in Takeley and the surrounding area but no infrastructure (schools, buses, GP surgeries etc) to support the families there so we have to come over to East Herts rather than use West Essex services.
* A need to be at forefront of technology for primary care use.