



The Grove  
Medical Centre



Patient Participation Group



Annual Report – 2022



# Introduction

The Grove Patient Participation Group (PPG) was established in July 2019 following the merger of the Bute House and Newland medical practices.

The PPG is a mutually supportive group of patients, health care workers, together with the lead and managing partners of the Practice that meet regularly to:

- Ensure the views of patients are heard
- Support the Practice to make positive changes
- Support the Practice in helping patients to play a greater role in their own health.

# The Grove – Patient Participation Group

## Your Committee:

Roger Marsh – Chair

David Bartle – Vice Chair

Maira (Student – Sherborne Girls)

Poppy (Student – Sherborne Girls)

Cllr Jane Carling

Joan Cooper

Jenny Davis

Carol Foster

Sarah Garside

Karen Gough

Maria Heard

Tony Meehan

Lorraine Wallington

Dr Charles Middle (Senior Partner – The Grove Medical Centre)

Alex Kimber (Managing Partner)

Vicky Morland (Social Prescriber)

# The Grove – Patient Participation Group

## A Year of Change

Activities in the early part of the year were still dominated by the Covid-19 pandemic with booster jabs being given to all cohort 1 to 12 (18 year olds and over). Out of all the 18 Primary Care Networks across Dorset the Sherborne Area PCN had come top of the table by vaccinating 90.9% of all eligible patients. Subsequently the vaccination centre at the Digby Hall had been stood down.

1<sup>st</sup>.July saw a significant change in the NHS with the introduction of the Integrated Care System (ICS). An (ICS) is a partnership of organisations such as GP teams, hospitals, local authorities and other partners that come together to plan and deliver joined up health and care services. The aim of an ICS is to improve care for people, including those with multiple conditions who access a range of health and care services. There are 42 ICS's across England - they replace the current system of local Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) for planning and delivering care.

At the Grove Medical Centre we sadly said goodbye to Dr Rob Childs in September as he retired from the practice after 29 years.

During the year we have been fortunate to welcome four new GPs, Drs Lucius Covell; Aimee Hobbs; Ruth Spedding; and Adam Wood. In addition, Dr Rebecca Lye joined the practice in February 2021 to complete her training as a General Practitioner. Following the completion of her training Dr Lye formally joined the practice as a Partner in October.

Your Patient Participation Group has welcomed 8 new members throughout the year including two student members from Sherborne School for Girls.

# The Grove – Patient Participation Group

## Patient Participation Group – Activities

### **Sherborne School for Girls – Student PPG Members**

By March our two student PPG members had conducted a comprehensive in-depth review of the Grove Medical Centre website which resulted in many suggestions being made. The report was reviewed by the practice and subsequently around 25 changes have been made to the website to make information clearer for patients.

### **Military Veterans**

The Grove Medical Centre is a ‘Veteran-Friendly Accredited’ Practice. In recognition of the special needs that some patients who are military veterans may have, your PPG has continued to work with our social prescribing team to hold regular monthly meetings with our military veterans from across the Sherborne area. These meetings are held at Manor Court, Newland on the third Saturday of each month.

### **Sherborne Town Council**

Your Patient Participation Group has continued to make a regular report on its activities to the meetings of Sherborne Town Council. In June the Council revised its meeting schedule to form a Wellbeing Committee. The Chair of the Grove PPG was invited to sit on that committee to report to the Council on local health and wellbeing matters.

### **Health Champions**

Your Patient Participation Group works closely with the Sherborne Area Health Champions who are a group of volunteers who give up their time to support various health and wellbeing activities within and around Sherborne. Besides many ongoing initiatives the group are working with young people on mental health issues. It also is hoped to set up a local bereavement support group.

# **The Grove – Patient Participation Group**

## **Patient Participation Group – Activities**

### **Cancer Support Group**

Following an initiative from last year when your PPG was working with the local health volunteers to set up a cancer support group in Sherborne, we are pleased to report that this has resulted in the Stalbridge Cancer & Recovery Support (SCARS) group holding regular drop-in meetings with the aim of welcoming all cancer patients, survivors, family & friends and to offer support to each other. The monthly meetings are held at Manor Court, Newland, Sherborne.

### **Orienteering Course for Sherborne**

The Patient Participation Group has worked with Public Health Dorset, Wessex Orienteers and Sherborne Town Council to provide an orienteering course around the town. Locally Sturminster Newton, Blandford and Gillingham have opened courses. The aim of the course is to encourage outdoor exercise activity for people of all ages and ability. The course in Sherborne, which was funded by the Town Council, Public Health Dorset and Sherborne Markets, was opened in July by the Deputy Town Mayor.

### **Children and Young Peoples Networking Event**

Recently your Patient Participation Group attended an event that brought together a group of young people, along with representation from all organisations within Sherborne whose activities involve interaction with the children and young people of the town. The ultimate aim is to make Sherborne a Young Person friendly town and to increase the fitness level and holistic well-being amongst young people and their families.

# The Grove – Patient Participation Group

## Patient Participation Group – Activities

### Newsletters

Communicating with our fellow patients to keep everyone informed on health news is a priority for the PPG. We achieve this in several ways by using social media, emails, the practice website and regular newsletters.

Your Patient Participation Group has produced three editions of the Grove Newsletter in the past twelve months.

The newsletters have carried a variety of health related subjects. Not only did they contain articles relating to the practice itself, but also they have reported on general health issues such as tips for keeping healthy during the winter period and the work of a social prescriber.

The items relating specifically to the Grove Medical Centre included the results of the patient survey independently conducted by CFEP Surveys; the ongoing work at the practice to reduce its carbon footprint; and the awards achieved by both Danielle Moncrieff and Lisa Considine in the NHS South West General Practice Nurse Awards 2022.

Most noteworthy was the magnificent achievement by Dr Matt Phelan in completing the EPIC DECA challenge of 10 Iron Man triathlons in 10 days!

Finally, our PPG committee member Joan Cooper has continued with her articles entitled 'A View from the Waiting Room' which has appeared in each of the editions.

# The Grove – Patient Participation Group

## Patient Participation Group – Activities

The PPG has held 8 meetings during the year using Zoom video conferencing facility and face-to-face.

### In the past year the Grove PPG activities include:

- Review of patient services
- Mental Health – new partnerships between the organisations that meet health and care needs.
- Cancer Support
- Carers Support Awareness
- Production of editions of the Grove Newsletter
- Distribution of health related information to patients via social media
- Liaison with the Apples and Yetminster PPGs
- Work in conjunction with local health related volunteers
- Support for military veterans
- Promoting health and wellbeing activities
- Supporting the Grove Medical Centre at Covid-19 and flu vaccination clinics
- Working locally with Sherborne Town Council as part of the ‘Integrated Care System’
- Orienteering Course for Sherborne project
- Working to set up a Sherborne Area Primary Care Network - Patient Participation Group



# The Grove – Patient Participation Group



## Your Patient Participation Group – Representation on Other Groups

- North Dorset PPG Chairs Group
- NHS Dorset Public Engagement Group
- NHS Dorset – ICS Place Based Working Group
- Sherborne Area ‘Health Champions’
- Sherborne Town Council
- Friends of the Yeatman Hospital

# The Grove – Patient Participation Group



**Official opening of the Sherborne Orienteering Course  
by the Deputy Mayor of Sherborne Town Council**

## **Your Patient Participation Group**

The Patient Participation Group is totally committed to maintaining and improving services to the Grove Practice. We would welcome new members with new ideas and particularly younger patients who can spare some time. Do come along and see at first hand the enthusiasm and commitment of the members!

On behalf of the Grove – Patient Participation Group

We thank the patients and staff of the Grove Medical Centre for their support during the past year.

For details of The Grove Medical Centre – Patient Participation Group see:

<https://www.thegrovemedcentre.co.uk/patient-participation-group-index>

### **The Grove Medical Centre – Patient Participation Group**

Roger Marsh

Chair

David Bartle

Vice - Chair