Higham Ferrers Surgery
Patient Participation Group Meeting
28th October 2026
Minutes

Attendees: IC, ER **Apologies:** DG, MD, DW

Agenda Items

Introduction:
MG welcomed everyone to the PPG.

Members: MG advised that three PPG members have left the PPG due to family commitments. MG will be sending out an invitation sms within the next few weeks.
If anyone on the PPG knows of anyone who would like to join, please let him know.

Cervical Smears: MG discussed that the practice is currently focusing on Cervical Smear Invitations.
Eligibility are; women aged 25 to 64, who will be invited every 5 years.
The purpose of a cervical smear is for a nurse to take a swab of the cervix to check for high-risk HPV, which can cause abnormal cell changes.
The consultation is around 10 minutes long and the swab test only takes about 5 minutes.

MG wanted to make sure that patients are aware: If a patient wishes to decline their smear test, then they need to speak to reception at the practice and sign a declaration form.
Without this form they will not be taken off the smear invite list!
By signing this form they will be removed from the contact list till their next invite date, which will be in 5 years.
This doesn't mean that the patient cannot have a smear within those 5 years. If the patient changes their mind at any time, they are more than welcome to contact the practice and book their appointment.

Phlebotomy: MG advised that Nene Park Phlebotomy clinic will be closing from Mid-January 2027.
Blood tests will start being taken from practice around the beginning of January for Higham Ferrers patients only, this should save on long waiting periods for appointments.

ENPA: DG not at PPG meeting to update.

AOB: N/A

Date of next meeting: Spring 2027