

DAVENPORT HOUSE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

A NEW CONSTITUTION

NHS guidelines now expect all members of a GP practice to be automatically members of its Patient Participation Group (PPG). One consequence is that we cannot charge a subscription as we do now although we would welcome donations for us to be able to continue to provide vital services to the Practice and patients.

To replace subscription income we have decided to apply for charity status which will increase our revenue opportunities in a number of ways including being able to apply to other bodies for grants to support what we do. This requires us to modify our constitution and have it agreed by members before we can approach the Charity Commission.

The new draft constitution is attached based on a template provided by the Charity Commission which we are using as this simplifies the application process. Despite its length, we are not changing our legal status and the PPG will continue to operate in the same way.

The significant changes to the constitution are as follows:-

- The name would change to 'Friends of Davenport House'
- The objectives would become
 1. To act as a conduit between the surgery and patients of Davenport House General Practice.
 2. To aid in the funding of goods and services not provided by statutory funding.
 3. Aiding in the provision of better medical, mental and social care in Harpenden and the wider local community.
 4. To provide education services open to all in Harpenden and the wider local community.
- The members of the committee would become trustees and be covered by trustee insurance. All officers and trustees would have to be elected at each AGM. We would require a quorum of 25 or 5% of the membership to be present at the AGM.
- The senior partner, or their nominee, and the Practice Business Manager would continue to be ex-officio members of the committee.

You are, of course, welcome to read the whole constitution and we would encourage you to do so but we hope this simplification is of help and you will be able to attend the SGM on the 11th October at 7.30pm prior to the education meeting and give us your support.

Apart from approving the constitution, the current committee members would have to be elected as trustees up to the time of the next AGM in March 2019.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to seeing you in October.

Kind regards

Richard Munton

Chairman