



**About our GP practices**

- There are 25 GP practices in Bath and North East Somerset (B&NES)
- From October 2018 there will be 24 practices
- Over 197,000 people are registered with one of our practices
- Last year (2017/18) the CCG spent £7.2m on primary care services
- All our GP practices are rated by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) as good or outstanding



**Our primary care strategy 2018-2020**

**1. Access to Care**

We are introducing additional evening and weekend GP appointments in three or four locations from October 2018. We are working closely with practice teams, B&NES Enhanced Medical Services (BEMS+) and other key stakeholders to develop this new service which will either be available at your own surgery or another practice in B&NES.

**2. Models of care**

We will provide support to practices wishing to work more collaboratively together to serve larger populations. In B&NES a number of practices have already merged to form the Heart of Bath Medical Partnership. Five other Bath-based practices have joined together as a federation known as the Minerva Health Group. These new models of care will help practices secure their long-term future, and offer a greater range of services by combining their skills.

**3. Workforce sustainability**

We will work with NHS England and Health Education England to explore ways to increase recruitment and retention of our primary care workforce and expand the roles of other primary care professionals.

This includes supporting GPs with an interest in specific clinical specialities and increasing training opportunities for other primary care staff.

**4. Workload**

We will help practices manage workload pressures in a number of ways, including offering project management support and advice to help move towards mergers or other collaborations.

We will also encourage practices to share IT and HR issues with us early, so we can provide the right support immediately. We also plan to standardise administrative tasks, to help staff use their time more efficiently.

**5. Estates and infrastructure**

We are working with GP practice teams to make sure they are based on sites that are fit for purpose and the right infrastructure is in place to enable them to meet future demand and facilitate collaborative working.

We will also support practices to adopt new digital tools and IT systems that enable them to work more effectively and improve the quality of patient care and treatment.



**The challenges faced by primary care**

- There is increased demand for services as people are living longer lives, often with multiple long-term conditions
- Some of our primary care workforce are approaching retirement. Practices are finding it increasingly difficult to recruit and retain GPs and other practice staff
- Primary care plays a central role as we change to provide more services closer to people's homes or in the local community
- Practices receive NHS funding based on their patient list size. Some of our smaller practices are beginning to find it difficult to remain sustainable



Would you like more information?

[www.banesccg.nhs.uk/get-involved](http://www.banesccg.nhs.uk/get-involved) to learn more about our primary care strategy  
[www.banesccg.nhs.uk/about-us](http://www.banesccg.nhs.uk/about-us) for a map showing all our GP practices and contact details  
[www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk) to read about the NHS Five Year Forward View and GP Forward View (GPFV)