

A Thank You to the Wedmore & Axbridge Community Health Fund CIO

Drs Jackson-Voyzey and McHugh would like to express their sincere thanks to the **Wedmore & Axbridge Community Health Fund CIO** for their unwavering support and dedication to our Practice.

The Health Fund has made a significant contribution towards helping us future-proof both our Axbridge and Wedmore surgery sites, supporting the creation of six additional clinical rooms. This has included the redecoration of both sites, the building reconfiguration at Wedmore and the furnishing of all the new clinical rooms.

This investment could not have come at a more important time. As our Practice population grows, so too does the need for a broader, multidisciplinary approach to healthcare. The additional space allows us to accommodate an expanding Practice and Primary Care Network (PCN) team and provides the capacity we need to continue developing our services for patients.

We are delighted that we are now able to welcome Year 3 medical students from the University of Plymouth Medical School, with GP Registrars also anticipated in the future. Providing opportunities for medical education and training is an important part of the future of general practice and helps us contribute to developing the next generation of healthcare professionals.

A wider team providing care for our patients

Modern general practice is no longer simply about seeing a GP for every health concern. Our GPs work as part of a much wider multidisciplinary team, with different professionals bringing their own specialist skills and expertise.

This means that patients can often be seen more quickly and receive care from the professional best placed to help with their particular needs. It also allows our GPs to focus their expertise where it is most needed, while ensuring patients continue to receive safe, personalised and joined-up care.

Our wider team includes:

Advanced Care Practitioners and Paramedics – work alongside our duty GPs to provide urgent, same-day care and home visits where appropriate.

Pharmacists – support patients with medication queries, medication reviews and medicines following hospital discharge.

Musculoskeletal Practitioners – assess, diagnose and manage patients with musculoskeletal problems, providing advice, treatment and rehabilitation and identifying those who may need further investigation or referral.

Health Coaches – support patients with their health and wellbeing, helping them put clinical advice into practice and connecting them with other organisations and sources of support.

GP Assistants – provide an important link between GPs and patients, helping with appropriate clinical and administrative processes so that GPs can concentrate on patients' clinical needs.

Care Coordinators – help patients navigate health and care services, coordinating support and ensuring that care is personalised around what matters most to each individual.

We also welcome a **midwife, mental health nurse, Weston Hospice and the abdominal aortic aneurysm screening service** to our Practice sites, providing additional services closer to our local community.

Working together across North Sedgemoor

Axbridge & Wedmore Medical Practice is the lead Practice for **North Sedgemoor Primary Care Network**, which brings together Axbridge & Wedmore, Cheddar Medical Centre and Brent Area Medical Centre.

The PCN works collaboratively with community, mental health and social care services to provide proactive, joined-up and personalised care for our local population. The PCN also employs additional healthcare professionals who work alongside our Practice teams.

We are particularly pleased that our Wedmore surgery site is now being used for positive neighbourhood working. PCN GPs are working from Wedmore at least four days a week, providing proactive care for patients living with moderate to severe frailty and supporting care home services.

Looking to the future

The investment made by the **Wedmore & Axbridge Community Health Fund CIO** has helped us create the space we need to grow, develop and provide care in new ways. Without this additional capacity, the expansion of our Practice and wider multidisciplinary team would have been significantly restricted.

We are extremely grateful for the Health Fund's generosity and continued commitment to our Practice. The improvements to our buildings and the new clinical rooms provide a more modern, welcoming and effective environment for our patients and staff.

Thank you for helping us to build a sustainable future for healthcare in our local community.

Drs Jackson-Voyzey and Josephine McHugh
Axbridge & Wedmore Medical Practice