

Press release

5 January 2018

Out of hours GP appointments in Thurrock's Health Hubs

The Thurrock Health Hubs will be providing a continuous, seven-day a week GP and primary care nurse service for the people of Thurrock.

Everyone who is registered with a GP practice in Thurrock will be able to book an appointment at one of the hubs at the weekend (9.00-12.00) and now also in the evening on weekdays. Appointments will be available for both GPs and practice nurses from 7pm to 9pm Monday to Friday.

The expansion of the hub service means that out-of-hours GP services will be more accessible to people across the whole of Thurrock. The extra appointments will launch on Monday 8th January at the hubs in South Ockendon, Purfleet, Grays, Tilbury and Corringham.

Gemma Curtis, Hubs Manager, Thurrock CCG, said:

“We’ve expanded our hub service because we know how important access to GPs and practice nurses are to the people of Thurrock. Feedback from patients has been really positive as and patients tell us how useful it is to see a GP or nurse outside normal practice opening times.”

“The winter months are very busy across the NHS, and that includes GP practices. The extra appointments at the hubs will help to support our hard working GPs and alleviate some of the pressure on the very busy A&E services in Essex.”

Dr Manjeet Sharma, one of the GPs who offers out of hours care at the hubs said:

“The hubs provide a vital service to our patients in Thurrock. It isn’t always easy for people to see a GP or nurse due to work, taking care of their children or a hundred other daily commitments that take priority. What the hubs offer is appointments outside regular working hours so that people can get to see a GP for screening, immunisations, health checks and other health needs without taking time off work.”

The weekly dates, times and addresses are published online:

<http://www.thurrockccg.nhs.uk/your-health/primary-care/thurrock-health-hubs>

People wishing to use the service should book the appointment through their GP in the usual way.

ENDS

Notes to Editors:

For more information visit: www.thurrockccg.nhs.net or call 01375 365810 and ask to speak to the communications team.

- Thurrock CCG commissions the out of hours service through existing suppliers.
- Access to the service will be through local GP Practices and through the 111 service