

**Motion to:** Council

18 March 2025

**Subject:** Norwich Walk-in Centre

**Proposer:** Councillor Giles

**Seconder:** Councillor Jones

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This Council notes:

- 1) The Government has a mission to build an NHS fit for the future that is there when people need it.
- 2) The Darzi Review found that the percentage of the NHS Budget devoted to primary care fell by 25% between 2009 and 2021.
- 3) The GP Patient Survey reveals that patient satisfaction levels with general practice has reduced from 80% in 2010 to 34.2% in 2023.
- 4) A majority of the respondents to the Government's Change NHS consultation listed access to primary care as a top three priority, and a recent poll by the Health Foundation found that 38% of patients regarded access to primary care as their number one priority.
- 5) The Government have increased annual funding for primary care by 7.2%, higher than the 5.8% increase for secondary care. The Government and the British Medical Association have reached agreement on the GP contract for the first time in four years.
- 6) Primary care and resilience is a key ambition in the Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care Board's Joint Forward Plan.
- 7) The Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care System (ICS) Health Inequalities Strategic Framework for Action commits the ICS to the guiding principle of proportionate universalism.
- 8) 40% of residents in Norwich live in the top 20% deprived areas according to the Index of Multiple Deprivation; residing in Norfolk and Waveney ICS Core 20 areas to combat health inequalities. By contrast 16% of residents across Norfolk and Waveney live in Core 20 areas.
- 9) That the Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care Board has launched a consultation on changes to local healthcare services, including the Norwich Walk-in Centre.
- 10) The proposed changes are:

- a. Closing the Norwich Walk-in Centre and then investing £1.5m in GP practices across Norfolk and Waveney using a fairer funding formula
  - b. Keeping the Walk-in Centre open but reducing the opening hours from 12 hours per day to four hours per day and then investing £750,000 in GP practices across Norfolk and Waveney using a fairer funding formula
- 11) Previously, in January 2023, Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care Board launched a consultation on options relating to the Walk-in Centre, including a proposal to close it.
- a. MPs, councillors, patients, healthcare professionals and residents campaigned city wide to save the Walk-in Centre
  - b. On 14 March 2023 Norwich City Council passed a motion stating its view that the Walk-in Centre should not be closed.
  - c. The Norfolk and Waveney ICB subsequently reversed its decision to

This Council **RESOLVES** to:

- 1) Clearly state its support for the continuation of the existing Walk-in Centre service.
- 2) Write to the Integrated Care Board stating this support.
- 3) Encourage people to participate in the consultation to make sure the commissioners hear their voices.