

Important Announcement – Withdrawal of Under-funded Service

For some time, the funding for our wound care service (dressing wounds and removing stitches / clips) has not covered our costs in delivering it. We receive NO funding at all, for complicated wounds such as cavity wounds or infected wounds. They often need lengthy, repeated appointments.

We understand it's vital to provide this service locally to our patients, so we have tried to continue doing this without proper funding. Unfortunately, despite our best efforts, it is simply unsustainable for us to do so, as we are losing money on every appointment we provide. This threatens the financial viability of the entire practice, and means we struggle to pay staff fairly. Unless this changes, we would eventually be unable to provide our core GP services.

As a result, Market Cross Surgery and all local surgeries in Southwest Lincolnshire will stop offering dressing service appointments.

What will this mean for you? From **Friday 18th October 2024**:

- If you come out of hospital with stitches or clips in a wound, or if you have a dressing on a wound that needs replacing, you will be referred to Grantham Health Clinic. This is on St Catherine's Road, Grantham, NG31 6TT.
- If you develop a new wound, you may be referred for an assessment with another service, who will manage any treatment required.
- We will continue to provide a Minor Injuries service, because of our rural location. We will treat wounds from a minor injury, that occurred less than 48 hours ago. If ongoing treatment is required, we will then refer you on to the Grantham Health Clinic.

Your care remains at the heart of everything we do, and we are here to support you through this transition. If you have any questions or need assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

We know this will be difficult for some, but we hope it is clear why we reached this decision. We need to ensure that we are still here for you, in the years to come.

Thank you for your understanding.