

## **PRIMARY CARE NETWORKS (PCN)**

### **THE SPALDING AND DEEPINGS PCN**

Beechfield Medical Centre is pleased to announce that we, in association with Munro Medical Centre (Spalding), The Johnson GP Centre (Spalding) and The Deepings Practice (Market Deeping) have formed a Primary Care Network (PCN), covering the 65000 patients across all of our practices.

This is part of a Government initiative to encourage and allow like-minded practices over a geographically logical area to combine certain resources, and to work collectively in areas of healthcare to the benefit of the total patient base.

Although at the very early stages of development, our future plans are far reaching and comprehensive, and will allow us the ability to recruit certain key healthcare and ancillary professionals to work across the PCN, rather than for a single practice. In the first year we expect to be able to recruit social prescribers to aid in the care of those who may need social assistance in their wellbeing rather than medical intervention, and we will also be taking on clinical pharmacists who will assist us in ensuring that medication requirements are reviewed and developed to a consistent model across the whole PCN.

In future years, we will be able to recruit paramedics, GP Associates and various other highly skilled individuals to continue to develop our work for the common and collective benefit of all of our patients.

Critically, this initiative is being driven and directed by the practices themselves, rather than by the wider NHS, under the leadership of a Clinical Director (currently from the Deepings Practice) supported by GPs from each of the constituent practices, and other partners from associated areas of healthcare and our established neighbourhood teams. This is a significant and very welcome opportunity for us all to work together and we are delighted to be a part of it.

Initially, this will have little impact on the majority of our patients as we develop and build the necessary infrastructure to take things forward and ensure that they are clinically and administratively fit for purpose – but we look forward to the years ahead as we continue to work with you in forming an integrated and joined up care system for all of our patients.