

Primary Care Commissioning Committee

Proposal to reduce Practice Boundary Area  
Castle Partnership

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| Submitted by:                     | Simon Tait, Primary Care Support                                      |
| Status                            | Decision  |
| GP Practice<br>Boundary reduction | D82011 Castle Partnership<br>Mile End Road, 29 Mile End Road, NR4 7QX |

Background

An application was received from The Castle Partnership with a proposal to decrease their current boundary area in line with the attached map (appendix 1). The practice wishes to remove the Roundhouse development in Cringleford. The Practice would continue to see the registered patients who currently live in this area (including new additions to their households) until they move to an area which is outside their practice boundary, but would no longer register any new patients.

The practice believes that this area is well served by other practices in the locality. This includes Newmarket Road Surgery, Humbleyard Medical Practice, St Stephens Gate Medical Practice, Norwich Practices Health Centre, and Bacon Road Medical Practice.

Rationale

The rationale provided by The Castle Partnership for the proposed change states that they do not have the resources to care for the residents in Cavell Court which resides in the proposed removed area. They have stated that this Care home takes a considerable amount of time and resources and feel it will be untenable and unmanageable for The Castle Partnership if it is not serviced by other practices.

The practice's application is attached as Appendix 1.

Care Homes

This area contains one residential care home Cavell Court, therefore any new patients/residents of the care home will no longer be able to register at The Castle Partnership. Again the practice has confirmed that they will continue to see the patients that are currently resident and registered with them but would not except any new registrations. Cavell Court houses 80 patients in a mixture of residential and nursing home beds.

## Stakeholders

On the 19<sup>th</sup> June an email was sent from NHS England to the practices that are within a five mile radius of the surgery (attaching the practices current boundary map with the proposed reduction detailed on this) in order to gain their comments on the proposed boundary changes with the deadline of close of play Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2018. Comments were also sought from the neighbouring CCG.

On the 25<sup>th</sup> June we had only received a few responses so a follow up email was sent to chase responses.

Please see attached response tracker (Appendix 2)

We had 8 practices responded to the request out of the 27 that were contacted along with feedback from South Norfolk CCG. These were:

- Trinty and Bowthorpe Medical Practice
- Bacon Road Medical Centre
- UEA Medical Centre
- Humbleyard Practice
- Lionwood Medical Practice
- Thorpewood Medical Group
- Hellesdon Medical Practice
- Heathgate Medical Practice

The feedback received back from the practices was an even split of the practices advising that they feel this will not affect them due to geography, or not supporting the application. Only one practice supports the application.

Currently the area which The Castle Partnership is proposing to remove is serviced by 6 Practices – Newmarket Road Surgery, The Castle Partnership, Humbleyard Medical Practice, St Stephens Gate Medical Practice, Norwich Practices Health Centre, and Bacon Road Medical Practice.

The practice that this will have the biggest impact on is the Humbleyard Medical Practice as they have a branch surgery located in Cringleford.

The main concerns that have been raised by Humbleyard are:

- Cavell Court is an 80 bedded residential and nursing home which opened in 2015. They have had a number of problems since they opened and have had problems keeping a manager in post, which has had an impact on their staffing and on their demands on us as a GP practice. As the closest practice to the care home Humbleyard have had more of the residents registered with them since the outset and therefore the impact has always been greater on them than on the other three practices based in Norwich CCG area.

## South Norfolk CCG Areas of concern

NHS South Norfolk CCG is not supportive of the proposed The Castle Partnership boundary change, as;

- The proposed boundary change, as set out in annex 2, is seeking to annex a specific area / housing development and there is not a clear and equitable reduction in the overall practice boundary. The proposed changes could be perceived as the annexation of a specific patient population, based on post code, from the Castle Partnership area and associated patient list.
- The application states that Castle Partnership are making the application on the grounds of not having additional infrastructure to support additional patients seeking registrations. Unfortunately, all practices within the area are facing the same pressures and though submitting this application Castle Partnership are unintentionally directing the pressures onto a single practice, Cringleford, who also experiencing similar clinical pressures and recruitment issues. A preferable solution would be for Castle Partnership, Newmarket Road, Bacon Road and Cringleford Surgeries to develop a mutually agreeable and sustainable solution.
- Cavell Court Care Home, a high demand care home, is within the proposed annexed area, with any new patients being unable to register with Castle Partnership contradicting the NHS Choices Framework and the government's commitment to giving patients greater choice and control over how they receive their health care, and to empowering patients to shape and manage their own health and care.
- The proposed annexation of the Roundhouse development in Cringleford also impacts on any new patients being able to register with Castle Partnership again, contradicting the NHS Choices Framework and the government's commitment to giving patients greater choice and control over how they receive their health care, and to empowering patients to shape and manage their own health and care.
- In reality, the biggest impact will be on Cringleford Surgery, part of the Humbleyard Practice, which is already operating at clinical and physical capacity.

An application has recently been received from Bacon Road Medical Practice to also reduce their boundary line to remove the Cringleford area and to close the practice's patient list for a period of 10 Months.

An application has recently been received from Newmarket Road Medical Practice to also reduce their boundary line to remove the Cringleford area.

These applications will be reviewed by the Primary Care Commissioning Committee separately.

## Recommendation

Members of the Primary Care Commissioning Committee are asked to consider the proposal and make a decision to approve or reject the boundary change.

It is recommended that the application should be rejected on the basis that seeking the removal of a small area in which a care home is located that it could be considered to be discriminatory.

## Appendix

### Appendix 1



Application form to  
Change the Practice /



Tuckswood & Mile  
End Catchment Area



Tuckswood & Mile  
End Catchment Area

### Appendix 2



Castle Partnership  
Response Boundary 1