

**News Release****09.10.07****A chance to view the plans for Shotfield Health Centre**

Wallington residents are being given the chance to see and comment on the redevelopment plans for the new state-of-the-art Shotfield Health Centre at four local engagement events. Sutton and Merton Primary Care Trust (PCT) and doctors at Shotfield want to hear residents' views before they resubmit the plans for the new Shotfield Health Centre to the London Borough of Sutton for planning permission.

Residents will have the opportunity to see artist impressions, ask questions and give their feedback at the following events:

<b>Date and time</b>	<b>Venue</b>
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> October 2007 10am – 12 noon	Wallington Farmer's Market Woodcote Road SM6 0NB
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> October 2007 1-5pm	Wallington Library Shotfield SM6 0HY
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> October 2007 6.30-7.30pm	Beddington and Wallington Forum Bandon Hill Primary School Sandy Lane South Wallington
Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2007 9.30am – 12 noon	Wallington Library Shotfield SM6 0HY

The £10 million health centre will be built on the same site as the existing GP clinic and will improve community-based health services for local people. The new state-of-the-art health centre, which is three times the size of the existing GP clinic, will provide more space to deliver high quality healthcare services including:

- Two GP practices

- An expanded community dental service that will be improved to meet local needs and will be able to see more people
- New surgeries for podiatry (chiropody) services
- New theatre rooms for minor procedures
- Community pharmacy
- Training rooms to teach doctors learning to be GPs.

Mrs W J Cook, a patient at the health centre commented:

“It’s high time that the premises of Shotfield Clinic matched the brilliant qualities and the excellent services of the medical and administrative teams which work there.”

Dr Heather Lings, a GP at Shotfield Health Centre, Wallington added:

“The redeveloped Shotfield Health Centre is needed to meet the health needs of our patients and the population of Wallington. The new centre will have additional space for the doctors and nurses and give us the facilities to provide a wider range of services.

“The building will have state-of-the-art facilities including a theatre suite allowing more procedures to be done locally. It will vastly improve the environment for staff and patients alike, and in particular give better access for patients with disabilities. It also paves the way for a local care centre to be co-located to provide diagnostic and hospital outpatient facilities. Altogether it will be a huge boost for local healthcare in Wallington.”

The new Shotfield Health Centre is being developed as the first phase of the Local Care Centre in Wallington, with plans to expand services in the future. Wallington is one of a series of four Local Care Centres that the Better Healthcare Closer to Home programme is proposing to develop. The others are at the Wilson Hospital, St Helier Hospital and at the Nelson Hospital, providing GP services, out-of-hours services, diagnostics such as x-ray, ultrasound and blood testing facilities, facilities to perform minor operations, other health related services (e.g. dentists, opticians, pharmacy), social services and voluntary services.

Work on the new development is scheduled to start in Spring 2008, with a view to opening by Summer 2009. While construction is underway, it is intended that services will be decanted to the adjacent office block across Jubilee Gardens, causing minimal disruption to patients. Work will also be carried out to rejuvenate Jubilee Gardens as part of the project.

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**More information on Better Healthcare Closer to Home can be found at [www.betterhealthcare.org.uk](http://www.betterhealthcare.org.uk).**

**For further information, please contact Sarah Chan on 020 8251 0512 or email [Sarah.chan@smpct.nhs.uk](mailto:Sarah.chan@smpct.nhs.uk)**