

## Minutes

### READING WEST PCN'S PPG OPEN MEETING HOW TO UNDERSTAND YOUR DIABETES

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2020 – 7pm – Tilehurst Methodist Church

	<p><b>SPEAKER – MICHAELLA FERNANDEZ-FELICIANO FROM INHEALTH INTELLIGENCE</b></p> <p>InHealth Intelligence started delivering the Diabetic Eye Screening service in 2019 in Berkshire. They have clinics in 4 locations across the region. These are West Berkshire Community Centre, The Boathouse Surgery in Pangbourne, Reading Walk-In Health Centre and the Calcot Centre. Everyone with diabetes who is 12 years old or over is invited for eye screening once a year.</p> <p>The GP will advise the service of a patient referral which will generate an appointment for the patient to attend. This appointment will take place once a year and if the case is more serious then more appointments will be given.</p> <p>Some people with diabetes can develop serious complications with their eyes, called diabetic retinopathy. If this is not treated properly, it can lead to sight loss. An optician will only be able to look at the surface vision whereas the diabetic eye screening looks specifically at the back of the eye, the veins, the retina and the discs at the back of the eye.</p> <p>5% of patients across the region have not attended their appointments. Western Elms and Tilehurst have the highest DNAs. This is generally because these are more built up areas and predominantly younger families and men don't attend their appointments.</p> <p>It was raised that the Calcot Centre was not accessible by public transport. Michaela advised that patients can attend their appointments at any of the 4 locations and to advise them of their preferred clinic. There are also charities that can provide transport to and from appointments and SCAS can transport disabled patients. A clinic used to be held at Western Elms Surgery before the extension was built. It was agreed to look into setting up a clinic again at the surgery.</p> <p><b>SPEAKER – DR JAVARIA AKHTER FROM WESTERN ELMS SURGERY</b></p> <p>Dr Akhter gave an overview of diabetes including, what is diabetes, how we can prevent diabetes, what happens if you are diabetic and what to do next.</p> <p>Thank you to Michaela and Dr Akhter for coming to speak to us.</p>		
	<p><b>Date of next open meeting: TBC</b></p>		