

# Complaints and Comments Leaflet

## LET THE PRACTICE KNOW YOUR VIEWS

Baddow Village Surgery is always looking for ways to improve the services it offers to patients. To do this effectively, the practice needs to know what you think about the services you receive. Tell us what we do best, where we don't meet your expectations plus any ideas and suggestions you may have. Only by listening to you can the practice continue to build and improve upon the service it offers.

### **TELL US ABOUT OUR SERVICE BY COMPLETING THE COMMENTS FORM IN THIS LEAFLET**

- Could you easily get through on the telephone?
- Did you get an appointment with the practitioner you wanted to see?
- Were you seen within 20 minutes of your scheduled appointment time?
- Were our staff members helpful and courteous?

### **PRACTICE COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE**

If you have a complaint about the service you have received from any member of staff working in this practice, please let us know. The practice operates a Complaints Procedure as part of the NHS system for dealing with complaints. Our complaints system meets national criteria.

**Note:** If you make a complaint it is practice policy to ensure you are not discriminated against, or subjected to any negative effect on your care, treatment or support.

### **HOW TO COMPLAIN**

In the first instance please discuss your complaint with the staff member concerned. Where the issue cannot be resolved at this stage, please contact Alana Shears, Practice Manager, who will try to resolve the issue and offer you further advice on the complaints procedure. If your problem cannot be resolved at this stage and you wish to make a formal complaint, please let us know as soon as possible, ideally within a matter of days. This will enable the practice to get a clear picture of the circumstances surrounding the complaint.

If it is not possible to raise your complaint immediately, please let us have details of your complaint within the following timescales:

- Within 12 months of the incident that caused the problem
- OR**
- Within 12 months from when the complaint comes to your notice

The Practice will acknowledge your complaint within five working days.

The Practice will arrange an investigation into your complaint and will write to you again on conclusion of this.

When the practice looks into your complaint it aims to:

- Ascertain the full circumstances of the complaint
- Make arrangements for you to discuss the problem with those concerned, if you would like this
- Make sure you receive an apology, where this is appropriate
- Identify what the practice can do to make sure the problem does not happen again

### **COMPLAINING ON BEHALF OF SOMEONE ELSE**

Please note that Baddow Village Surgery keeps strictly to the rules of medical confidentiality. If you are complaining on behalf of someone else, the practice needs to know that you have their permission to do so. A note signed by the person concerned will be required, unless they are incapable of providing this due to illness or disability.

### **COMPLAINING TO OTHER AUTHORITIES**

The practice management team hope that if you have a problem you will use the Practice Complaints Procedure.

However, if you feel you cannot raise your complaint with us, you can contact any of the following bodies:

Signposting Service – this service can help your find many local services. 0300 003 2125

#### **NHS England**

PO Box 16738, Redditch, B97 9PT

Telephone: 0300 311 22 33

[england.contactus@nhs.net](mailto:england.contactus@nhs.net)

### **CONTACTING THE CARE QUALITY COMMISSION**

If you have a genuine concern about a staff member or regulated activity carried on by this Practice then you can contact the Care Quality Commission on 03000 616161, or alternatively visit the following website: <http://www.cqc.org.uk>

## **ICAS & OMBUDSMAN**

### **NHS COMPLAINTS ADVOCACY SERVICE**

This is a national service that supports people who want to make a complaint about their NHS Care or treatment. Telephone: 0300 456 2370 (charged at local rate) or <http://www.pohwer.net/our-services/nhs-complaints-advocacy>

### **OMBUDSMAN**

If you are not happy with the response from this practice, you can refer your complaint to the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman who investigates complaints about the NHS in England.

You can call the Ombudsman's Complaints Helpline on 0345 015 4033 or <http://www.ombudsman.org.uk>

# COMPLAINTS AND COMMENTS FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of complaint / comment: \_\_\_\_\_

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Signed: \_\_\_\_\_