

**We just wanted to update you on the current situation here and how this may affect you**

## First the not so good news



You wait ages for one and then 5 come along

Unfortunately, we have been hit with a spate of retirements and resignations

- Dr Neil Cooper, our former senior partner has retired
- Dr Shona Lockie is leaving us on 4<sup>th</sup> August for a new role
- Dr Rosie Shotts is retiring at the end of August
- Dr Amar Lally is leaving us toward the end of September
- Nurse Linda Hackett has retired
- Another nurse is away for 3 months

We are busy trying to recruit to these positions, but there is a national shortage of GPs and nurses, so it is not going to be easy and it will not happen overnight

### What does this mean for you?

We are going to have to put in place plans to prioritise the most urgent and necessary treatments

This is likely to mean less availability of routine follow-up appointments

This, in turn, could mean longer waits for non-urgent appointments

This will also mean fewer blood tests here at the surgery

We have always been pleased with the fact that we have offered better access to see a doctor or nurse faster than every other practice in the area. However, we may no longer be able to make this claim – at least for a short time until we are back up to full strength.

We will have to say 'no' to some requests. At the moment we are being inundated with emails for information and follow up questions and requests for non-NHS reports and forms and letters. The truth, they are taking up nearly as much time as the treatment clinics we provide – that is not a good use of clinical time.

Our responsibility is to treat the unwell and to prioritise treatment for those who need it most and those that need it sooner

Please bear with us during this difficult time

## The good news



Dr Waseem Kayani is joining us on 9<sup>th</sup> August and he will be working full-time

✓ We are recruiting more sessions of GP time than we are losing

✓ We are recruiting more sessions of nurse time than we are losing

✓ This means that if we are successful in our recruitment drive, we should have more appointments than ever to offer

✓ Blood tests can be booked online for Amersham Hospital [here](#)