Minutes of Portland PPG Meeting Wednesday March 1st 2017

Present: Sue Cousins, Gail Jukes, Melinda Green, Jeanette Harvey, Jack Charlesworth, Ernest Barnett, Dawn Smart

Apologies: Chris Blunt

In attendance: Amy Watling-Cash (Quit51)

1. Minutes of last meeting: agreed.
2. Quit51: Amy Watling-Cash described the service. Nichola is the team member who offers services to Portland patients. A 12 week programme is provided to wean people off nicotine, using tablets or patches. The success rate for Portland has been very good. National No Smoking day is within the next few days; Amy showed a new poster for every consultation room to remind clinicians of the service.

Amy described the impact of smoking on the individual and their family, including the associated health risks but also financial aspects. Smoking 20 cigarettes per day equates to an annual expenditure of £2500.

E cigarettes are currently not licensed and not regulated but are to be regulated later this year. Whilst these do not produce carbon monoxide like cigarettes do they do cause cell damage and can cause restriction to the airways.

The group agreed that information on Quit51 services should be included in the PPG waiting room folder. Amy or a colleague will be attending the Health Fair and can offer lung function testing i.e. how much carbon monoxide a person has been subjected to.

1. Health Fair 2017: SC outlined progress to date. Some services have confirmed attendance. Further meeting to take place with representatives of Northgate Patient Group.
2. The Big Conversation: SC described the CCG public consultation on GP and Community Services and plans for integrated health and social care. Sue attended a recent event and had information to share with the group about the questions being asked of members of the public. The CCG have a questionnaire which is due to be circulated shortly to practices; SC, DS and JC agreed to offer a session in the waiting room to encourage patients to complete the form.
3. Next meeting is May 3rd at 5.00 pm.