

Frequently Asked Questions – North Laine Medical Centre and merger with St Peter’s Medical Centre

What is the change?

The change is a merger between St Peter’s Medical Centre and North Laine’s Medical Centre. The proposal is to create a larger, single practice, with greater resilience, wider choice of GPs, nurses and other staff and is planned to happen by the end of November.

To support this, the practices have secured funding to rebuild the existing St Peter’s site into a larger, state-of-the-art medical facility, with opportunities to offer a wider range of services. This is planned to be completed by Easter 2020.

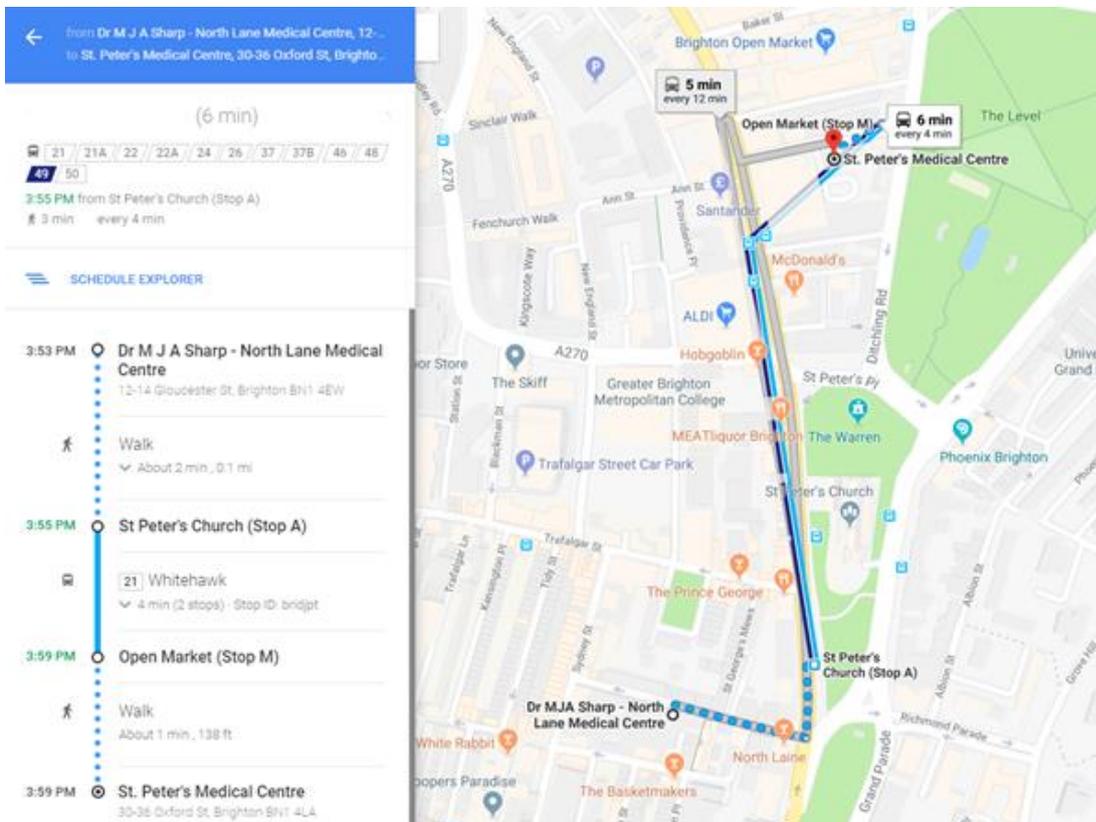
The reason the merger is being proposed now is because the building at North Laine Medical Centre will no longer be available to the NHS. What this means is that from the **24th of November 2018** the two surgeries will become one and your GP and your care will solely be based at St Peters Medical Centre.

Who will this effect?

All patients registered at North Laine Medical Centre from the **24th of November** will be seen at St Peter’s Medical Centre.

Where is St Peters Medical Centre?

The address is **30-36 Oxford Street, Brighton, East Sussex, BN1 4LA**. Below a map showing where St Peters Medical Centre is in relation to North Laine Medical Centre



How do I get to St Peter's Medical Centre?

- **By Bus**
The surgery is easily accessible and is served by several bus stops outside the building. The following buses 21, 21A, 22, 22A, 24, 26, 37 37B 46, 48
- **By Car**
There is on-street metered parking plus limited Blue Badge holder parking in adjacent roads. If you have any concerns over access, please contact the medical centre in advance of your visit.
- **By Foot**
The surgery is just under 600 Meters from North Laine Medical centre so about an eight minute walk.

What do I need to do now?

You do not need to do anything. Responsibility for your care (including your records) will automatically be transferred to the merged practice, unless you now choose to register with another practice, which you are at liberty to do if you wish.

Am I able to choose another practice?

Yes you are able to register with another practice as long as you live in the practices boundary. NHS choices website shows you practices available to you based on your post code. <https://www.nhs.uk/pages/home.aspx>

What will the impact of the proposed changes be on patients?

- Patients will have access to a wider range of services and specialist clinics once the new development is completed
- Patients will be seen in a modern fit for purpose medical centre through the rebuild
- Patients will still have access to good transport bus links.
- Patients will still be able to see their GP from North Laine Medical including Dr Michael Sharp, Dr Rachel McPherson and Dr Demetrios Ioannidis
- Staff will be able to share skills and experience with larger pool of staff

Will the St Peters have enough capacity to take on the North Laine Patients?

The staff from North Laine's are moving to the merged practice; this includes Dr Sharp, Dr McPherson and Dr Ioannidis. St Peter's is looking to install additional phone lines to help with speed of telephone answering. St Peter's is also looking at moving some administration functions to another site to make more room to provide more face to face appointments.

What will happen to my medical records in the case of the merger?

Your medical records are electronic and will securely be transferred automatically.

Will I still be able to see my usual GP, if the merger goes ahead?

Patients will still be able to see their GP from North Laine Medical including Dr Michael Sharp, Dr Rachel McPherson and Dr Dimitrios Ioannidis if they wish to.

I have a number of health conditions and am worried about my continuity of care if the merger goes ahead. What should I do?

If you have a complex condition, or are a vulnerable patient, we will ensure that, where possible, you will continue to receive care from your current GP.

If you have particular needs, for example if you are hearing impaired and require receptionists to behave in a way that makes it easier for you to lip-read, please mention it to your doctor at your next appointment at North Laine Medical Centre and a note can be added to your records, if this has not already been done.

I like being able to see the same GP each time I have an appointment as I feel my care is more personal; if the merger and site closure go ahead, will I still receive personal care?

You will have a named GP within the practice and can see any GP if you wish.

I would like more information?

Please visit the website for more information:

<https://www.stpetersmedicalcentre.co.uk>

How can I make an appointment with St Peter's?

Patient's records will automatically be transferred over to St Peter's. In the first instance we are asking patients to phone St Peter's on the following number to make appointments **01273 606006**.

Where is the planned development for the new St Peter's/North Laine Building and what is the timeline?

The current proposal is for a new building to be developed behind St Peter's in the Parking Lot. This is pending Council approval on the 12th October 2018. More information will be available in due course on the St Peter's website

<https://www.stpetersmedicalcentre.co.uk>

