

Walsall patients to benefit from extra GP appointments this winter

Walsall residents will be able to benefit from extra GP appointments from Saturday, December 23, 2017.

Walsall CCG has worked with local GPs to create three Hubs based at Darlaston Health Centre in Darlaston, Pinfold Health Centre in Bloxwich and Broadway Medical Practice. The Hub's will be run by a group of local GPs.

When can I get an out-of-hours appointment?

Extra GP appointments will be available between:

- 6.30pm – 9pm weekdays
- 10am – 3pm weekends
- 11am – 1pm Bank Holidays (including Christmas Day)

However, people will only be seen if they have booked an appointment.

How can I book one of these appointments?

A dedicated number has been set up and appointments can be booked by calling **01922 501999** during the following times:

- 8am – 9pm weekdays
- 10am – 3pm weekends
- 11am – 1pm bank holidays

NHS 111 will also be able to book an appointment for you if they feel you need to see a GP.

Do I need to be registered at one of the three surgeries where the Hubs are based to use the service?

No, you can be registered with any GP in Walsall to access the extra appointments. Please note you will need to travel to one of the three Hubs (listed above).

What if I'm not registered with a Walsall GP?

If you are not a registered patient at a Walsall GP, you will not be able to access these out-of-hours appointments. More information about these services can be found on Walsall CCG's website: www.walsallccg.nhs.uk.

When should use the Hubs?

The extra appointments are for patients who have a pressing illness or injury and are unable to attend their GP during normal opening hours. They are not walk-in centres and both of Walsall's urgent care centres and its A&E department will still be open as normal for people to use in serious or life threatening emergencies.