



**Scotstown
Medical
Group**

CAIRNFOLD ROAD
BRIDGE OF DON
ABERDEEN
AB22 8LD

Appointments Tel 01224 702149
Enquiries Tel 01224 551415

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Ian McNeil
Scotstown Medical Group
Scotstown Medical Centre
Cairnfold Road
Bridge of Don
Aberdeen
AB22 8LD

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As you are no doubt aware, NHS Grampian is conducting a review of GP dispensing services which includes the service currently provided at our Udney Station branch. A consultation period ended on 1/10/16 and the review group will now be considering all responses received. The consultation allowed individuals to submit information on how they might experience serious difficulty in obtaining their prescribed medication from a community pharmacy and hence why the GP dispensary was needed. Equally the practice, along with other interested organisations, was invited to respond to a very specific question, namely:

"If dispensing of medicines was not available at a specific GP practice in this review, do you think that patients who currently get, or are eligible to get, their medicines from these practices will have a serious difficulty in getting their dispensed medicines from a community pharmacy? If your answer is yes, please describe what these difficulties would be and who they would apply to."

The practice responded within the required timeframe, and a copy of our submission is enclosed for your information. We strongly believe that dispensing should continue from our Udney Station surgery to those patients registered with us to receive this service. Furthermore, the effect of the removal of dispensing from Udney would have a serious impact on our ability to deliver our current level of service to all our patients from our surgery in Woodside Terrace. We will continue to keep our patients updated through newsletters and our website www.scotstownmedicalgroup.co.uk but felt it important to ensure that our dispensing patients were aware of our view on the matter and have therefore taken the step of writing to you directly.



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The recommendations of the Review Group will be presented to the Board of NHS Grampian early in the new year, with their decision expected to be ratified by the Board during March 2017. In the meantime, the community have already held meetings at which feelings were made known to representatives of NHS Grampian and we have no doubt many will continue to campaign for the retention of this valuable service to patients. We await NHS Grampian's decision with interest.

Yours sincerely

Ian McNeil FCCA FCMI
Business Manager

STOP PRESS: The Review Group will be holding a series of meetings to allow individuals and organisations to make representations to them directly in the Udney Station Community Centre on November 29 between 13.30 and 20.00. If you would like to speak with them please see the enclosed sheet showing how to make an appointment.

Branch Surgery – Woodside Terrace, Udney Station, Ellon, Aberdeenshire. Tel – 01651 842204. Fax – 01651 842559.

Partners - Dr. R.B. Lamberton. Dr. A.A. Forbes. Dr. R. Gupta. Dr. B.S. Crockett. Dr. J. A. Stewart. Dr. R.A. Kilfeather
G.P. Assistant – Dr. I.M. Henderson

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