



NEW HOME ANNOUNCED FOR STAR GP HUB

MIDDLESBROUGH'S STAR GP hub is moving to brand new premises next month.

The hub, which provides extended and out of hours GP services, is moving from its current location at Park Surgery in Linthorpe Road to a modern, purpose-built facility at the Bluebell Medical Centre in Acklam.

Out of hours services will start operating from the new premises after 10pm on Saturday 7 July, whilst extended hours provision will begin from 8am on Sunday 8 July.

The move will provide a number of benefits for patients and staff including:

- Being based in a quieter area
- Use of a new purpose-built facility
- Being situated on the ground floor
- Ample free car parking
- Being located on a main bus route into the town centre

Mandy Headland, Director of Operations for ELM Alliance Ltd, which runs the STAR Service, said:

"Having listened to feedback from staff and patients, Bluebell Medical Centre provides a much better location.

"The brand new building is a ground floor venue in a quieter area with improved security. It's also well situated to meet the current level of patient demand in the town.

"As with all our STAR hubs, this is not a walk-in service. Appointments can only be booked via a patient's own GP surgery, online via own GP surgery website or urgent appointments by calling NHS 111."

For more information on the STAR service visit www.southteesaccessresponse.nhs.uk

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITORS:

South Tees Access Response (STAR) service was set up by GPs to improve access to their services outside the current core hours for patients registered to GP practices across Redcar, East Cleveland and Middlesbrough needing urgent care or advice.

Four STAR GP hubs in Middlesbrough, North Ormesby, Redcar and Brotton now extend evening and weekend opening times for patients seven days a week, from 6pm to 9.30pm Monday to Friday, and 8am to 9.30pm on weekends and bank holidays.

STAR also provides an out of hours GP service from 9.30pm to 8am. Further information is available at <u>www.southteesaccessresponse.nhs.uk</u>

The Hirsel hub in North Ormesby is just 0.8 miles away from the Park Surgery site. If patients cannot get to their appointment, transport can be provided where appropriate.