

**County Council Meeting – 12 October 2023****Question to Councillor Julia Jessel  
Cabinet Member for Health and Care****By Councillor Afsar**

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**Question**

General practitioners (GPs) are essential to the functioning of the National Health Service (NHS). They serve as expert risk managers and proficient communicators. If general practise is not successful, then the NHS as a whole will also fail. Recently, I have been contacted by numerous residents in Burton on Trent who are registered for various surgeries. They have expressed their frustration regarding the lack of available appointments when they need to see their doctors. As a partner of NHS Could the county council please investigate this matter as an urgent health concern for our residents and work towards finding a mutually agreeable and sustainable solution?

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**Reply**

I am sorry to hear about the difficulties that residents in Burton on Trent are experiencing in getting a GP appointment. We know that access to GPs is a high priority for the NHS nationally with the 'Delivery Plan for Recovering Access to Primary Care' published last month. I will raise the issues in Burton on Trent with the Integrated Care Board who are responsible for GP services. The Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee may also wish to consider investigating these concerns further.

