

Press Announcement

Marlborough House

**Warrior Square
St Leonards on Sea**

The Partners of Carisbrooke and Warrior Square GP surgeries together with the Directors of Warrior Pharmacy have decided that they cannot contemplate a return to Marlborough House, following the major building fire in July 2013 and the consequent water damage and problems that have developed since.

Following this incident, Warrior Square Surgery relocated to Cavendish House, Hastings, whilst Carisbrooke Surgery and Warrior Pharmacy relocated to modular buildings at Falaise Road Hastings.

The initial expectations were of a likely short term relocation requirement, but as time has progressed and problems with reinstatement have come to light, timescales have inexorably lengthened with estimates of completion dates having been repeatedly extended and unmet.

There have been long delays with commencement of reinstatement works and there remains a major issue with regards to the development of extensive mould growth within the building. Whilst this may have been temporarily alleviated by stripping of most but not all of the internal fixtures and fittings, there is, in our view, a very real risk that this could become a recurrent issue once the building is reoccupied. We have not been able to obtain an enforceable guarantee for the proposed works to mitigate this risk. Consequently the GP Surgeries and Pharmacy have taken the view that the potential risk to staff, patients visitors and clients is such that they will need to seek permanent relocation elsewhere.

The Surgeries and Pharmacy wish to acknowledge the rapid response from Hastings Council following the fire in 2013, and in particular the efforts of the late Jeremy Birch, and look forward to working with the Council to secure a site for provision of a new GP premises to serve the central St Leonards area in the future. We are now actively commencing this search.

Mike Edwards
Project Manager - 26 January 2016
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