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ADDENDUM TO DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT
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Dr K W McDonald and Partners prides itself on providing world class primary care to the population of Barnsley. A unique opportunity has arisen to invest in our premises to increase the training capacity in primary care. Barnsley has been identified as an under doctored area and a recent report showed that Barnsley had 35 fewer GPs than the national average. As such, the Department of Health has an expectation that local PCTs and GP Practices will invest in GP training infra-structure in 2009/10. By investing in, and extending our existing premises, we would be able to offer extra placements to GP Registrars (trainees) to further help reduce the health inequalities of the Barnsley population.

The GP Registrars (trainees) would be in addition to the existing 8 GPs working within the Practice. The GP Registrars would not build up a patient list, but would work alongside the GP trainers, (2 of the existing GPs), providing healthcare to our existing Practice population. Therefore, this would not result in an increase in patients attending the Practice.

To facilitate improvements to the quality of GP training in Barnsley, within our Practice, it will be necessary to extend our existing premises to provide additional consulting rooms for GP training. The extension would provide an essential increase in accommodation to enable the Practice to reach this goal.

The proposals are for a first floor extension to the front of the building, on top of the existing flat roof extension. We have been advised that the most practical and beneficial use of the space available would be to construct four rooms. The layout would provide a consulting room for the GP trainer, a room for the GP Registrar and a training/resource room, plus an additional room which would be used as a nurse consulting room.

The Practice Partners are fully committed to the development of GP training in Barnsley and feel that if this opportunity is successful, it can only lead to an improved provision of healthcare to the community of Barnsley.

To quote Ben Bradshaw, (former Health Minister):

"This is a win-win situation for everyone involved. We can train more GPs, who can treat patients more quickly and effectively. At the same time we can use this investment to continue the drive to tackle health inequalities across England, while simultaneously helping to support the building and associated trades".