



## **Home Visit Policy**

### **Home Visit Justification**

Home visits are at the discretion of the GP who will determine if the visit is clinically necessary. Visits are reserved for patients who are **genuinely housebound**, including those in nursing and residential homes unable to attend the surgery, and terminally ill patients.

A healthcare professional from Park Medical Centre may conduct a home visit if they believe a patient's condition:

1. Prevents them from travelling to the surgery; or
2. The condition may deteriorate as a result of travelling to the surgery

Home visits will not be authorised because of:

1. A lack of transport
2. The patient's financial situation
3. Childcare issues
4. Poor weather conditions
5. Any other situation deemed inappropriate by the clinician

Park Medical Centre will also consider whether alternative ways of assessing the patient are appropriate such as a telephone call.



## **Patient Obligation and Managing Risks on a Visit**

Park Medical Centre has an obligation to our staff when visiting any patient's home and would expect that they are not exposed to risks. Not being exposed to risk is an absolute right and should the staff member feel compromised, then Park Medical Centre will fully support their decision in all circumstances.

Following any visit, should the staff member be concerned, or have highlighted that the patient's home is potentially hazardous to their own or others' health or safety, then a patient contract can be raised to formalise the arrangement.

Expectations would be that the consultation area is smoke free, there is a space to safely enable the clinician to undertake their role, and that any animal(s) likely to cause concern or a nuisance is not kept in the same room for the duration of the visit.

Details of any contract, risk management or significant event will be detailed within the clinical system, enabling any visiting healthcare professional to view potential risks.