PRACTICE NAME
PRACTICE ADDRESS

 **Letter to patients RE: Cessation of in-house dressing service**

*This letter was written by a SDCCG practice to their patients, therefore you may wish to personalise it for your own practice.**If you are in NDCCG/Hardwick/Erewash please omit bullet point* ***1*** *which refers to a SDCCG enhanced service.*Dear Patients,

It is regret that we have to inform you that from the DATE we will no longer be providing an in-house dressings service, except in limited circumstances detailed below.

Dressings take up a large amount of valuable nursing time, and yet GP surgeries are not contracted or funded to do them. This means that time is taken away from our nurses looking after patients with chronic diseases such as diabetes, asthma and high blood pressure.

We have been in consultation with XXX Clinical Commissioning Group (XXXCCG) for more than a year about this issue. We gave them notice over three months ago that we would be stopping this service, and asked them to come up with a long-term solution to the problem. As yet this has not been forthcoming. We therefore ask that you do the following:

1. If you have had an **operation in the past two weeks** and require a dressing, please book an appointment with your practice nurse. If after two weeks your wound has not fully healed, your practice nurse will advise you whether your ongoing care should be provided by the Minor Injuries Unit or the District Nursing team.
2. If you have a **minor wound which you cannot manage with over-the-counter dressings from your local pharmacy or supermarket** then please go to the Minor Injuries Unit / A&E.
3. If you have an **ulcer or wound which was not caused by surgery or an injury** please ring the District Nurse liaison team on TEL to arrange your dressings.

If you have any queries or concerns regarding the contents of this letter, XXX Clinical Commissioning Group are responsible for commissioning local healthcare services such as wound dressing and more details can be found at httsp:// CCG WEBSITE.

Yours sincerely,
PRACTICE NAME

RED – Insert / remove as appropriate