*Dear patient,*

*Welcome to xxx medical practice.*

*You have been assigned to our practice despite living out with our practice area as all the practices which cover your address have closed lists at this time.*

*We do not normally accept patients from out with our area. This is due to the significant impact on the services that we provide to our existing patients given the extra time involved in visiting patients out with our area, dealing with different district nursing teams etc.*

*When a new patient from out with our area is allocated to us, we are under no obligation to keep them registered at the Practice. However, we realise the pressure your local area is under and that having to keep developing new relationships with different healthcare teams is not ideal.*

*Therefore, we would be willing to accept your registration and continue to provide medical services, on the understanding that we will be keeping the impact of out of area home visiting under close review. If it becomes clear that the impact on practice capacity is being reduced by the need to provide home visits to out of area patients, we will unfortunately have no choice but to request that our patients living outside the practice area are reallocated to other practices.*

*We understand this is not the service you wish but hope you appreciate the situation. In the time it takes to perform an out of area home visit, a GP could have seen up to 10 other patients in the surgery. With current levels of demand for GP services this is the only way we can remain operational without closing our list to new patients entirely. If you have any concerns about this approach please direct them to your local MSP who has been informed of the position.*

*We look forward to offering you the best service we can at this difficult time.*

*Yours sincerely,*