

St Helen Auckland Branch Surgery to remain open

A spokesperson for NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (ICB) said:
"We recently considered a request by Auckland Medical Group to close its branch surgery at St Helen Auckland.

"After careful deliberation, the ICB concluded that the **St Helen's surgery will remain open and continue to support local residents.** While we fully recognise the efforts of Auckland Medical Group to find a sustainable way forward with the challenges associated with the condition of the premises and the operational difficulties of running multiple sites, it was agreed that the current case for maintaining the branch is stronger overall."

"In reaching a decision, we took into consideration several factors. This includes the likelihood of new housing developments, potential new leisure facilities and improvements to the road infrastructure in the area."

"In addition, the feedback from patients, rurality of the area, access to transport links and alternative services were also taken into consideration.

The practice will work with the responsible NHS organisations (ICB) to look at any available funds to optimise the existing building.

Thank you to everyone who engaged with the practice and shared your feedback throughout the process.