

Delight over plans for a surgery

RESIDENTS of Tolworth's Sunray Estate are delighted about a new doctor's surgery to be built at 57 Knollmead.

People living on the estate—numbering around 1,800—were left without a doctor for more than a year following the retirement of Dr. Solle Freedman at the end of June 1980.

Though there are three doctors practising within a mile radius of the estate residents felt they needed a general practitioner to serve them directly.

The estate is cut off from the rest of Tolworth on four sides, making it virtually an island. For many young mothers and old people living there travelling to a doctor off the estate caused problems.

It was feared that there were not enough potential patients to make a new practice attractive enough to an incoming doctor.

Now as well as a practice set up six months ago in the old Tolworth library in Warren Drive South a new one will be built at 57 Knollmead.

On Wednesday night Kingston Council's development sub-control committee gave permission for a change of use of the ground floor of the end of terrace house.

The upstairs of the house will stay in residential use.

The council's committee heard that there was a need for surgery in the Knollmead area but finding suitable premises had proved difficult.

Mrs. Rose Mildenhall, of Hazel Bank, greeted the news of the surgery with delight. "We're very pleased about it.

"There are a lot of older folk and mums with babies living on the estate so it is good that they won't have to travel so far to go to the doctor. There was also a fear that the other doctors may have been overloaded," she said.

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