



MINUTES OF MEETING WITH BASILDON AND BRENTWOOD CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP 21 FEBRUARY 2020, BASILDON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Attendees - William Guy, Terri Sargent, Rebecca Neil, Simon Elkington

RN provided a summary on progress of the Noak Bridge Neighbourhood Plan. She explained that during the initial consultation residents had raised several concerns about the existing health facilities in Noak Bridge, and the ability of the health centre to cope with any additional demand created by the development of 400 new homes on the edge of the village. RN also highlighted the ambiguity in the Draft Local Plan about the proposed improvements to local infrastructure required from development on H10 and explained that the NBNP Team would like to have some initial discussions about the CCG's plans for expansion (if any).

WG advised that there were no plans to physically extend the Noak Bridge surgery and the CCG would not be expecting any new medical facilities on site H10. However, he advised that the CCG are looking at moving some of its administrative functions elsewhere in order to free up room for more clinical space. SE asked whether this would lead to more appointments being available, and WG answered that it was not anticipated that it would. However, current national policy supports bringing other medical staff (pharmacists, physiotherapists, mental health specialists etc.) into GP practices, to offer a broader range of services. This, in combination with a new triage system, should ensure patients are referred directly to the appropriate professional, thus freeing up some existing GP appointments.

In terms of existing residents' complaints about the medical centre, WG explained that the new triage system which had been in operation for 18 months and operated jointly with the Ballards Walk Surgery in Laindon was still 'bedding in' and suspected that this might be what is adding to the delays in residents being able to get appointments.

There was a discussion about whether it was possible to obtain data on the estimated level of growth in demand for healthcare. WG advised that the CCG are already in possession of data on known growth, and that he may be able to share it with the NBNP team. However, this doesn't consider the additional uplift which would result from the Local Plan allocation. WG added that it is often difficult to predict demand because there is rarely an accurate indication of who might live in new development. RN asked whether if we provided some estimated figures for the new population of H10, WG would be able to provide some feedback as to whether the current plans to reconfigure the Medical Centre would be able to accommodate the growth and provide a rough idea of any additional anticipated costs. WG stated that yes, he could look into this.

RN asked whether the CCG objected to the draft Local Plan. WG responded that the CCG rarely objects to individual sites but it did make general representations about the need to invest in healthcare to accommodate planned growth.

WG explained that the CCG would be highly supportive of any measures that encouraged healthy lifestyles, such as creating or enhancing cycling or pedestrian routes. WG also explained that there were plans to develop a primary care facility in the town centre, and so any cycle paths that could get residents into town quickly would be welcomed. RN asked whether the CCG could provide advice on this, and WG responded that the Public Health Team within Essex County Council could do so.

Actions:

- WG to share data on anticipated levels of growth
- RN/SE to estimate population of H10 site and send to WG
- WG to provide feedback based on these figures as to whether current reconfiguration plans at the Noak Bridge Medical Centre will still be able to accommodate additional H10 growth and any additional anticipated costs.