



Vale of York
Clinical Commissioning Group

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Dear James

HDC – Local Plan

Thank you for the opportunity to clarify the local health provision for Easingwold and the surrounding areas, its been some time since the CCG has been engaged in the detail of the growth projections and its impact on health.

For the avoidance of doubt, the need for a healthcare facility remains.

It's often helpful to think about health as in hospital and all those services delivered in the community in an 'out of hospital setting'. As such the latter is much broader than a GP surgery. Easingwold has a number of health care facilities delivering a range of health and social care services. Most notably:

- Millfield Surgery, the GP premises
- Easingwold Health Centre, delivering community nursing services, children's and midwifery services and podiatry principally
- St Monica's Community Hospital where we have rehabilitation and end of life beds, and rehabilitation services such as physiotherapy
- Mental health and first contract physio is delivered predominantly in the GP practice, together with some midwifery clinics.

The projected growth of the population and the increased needs of that aging population remains the subject of review and service planning for local healthcare providers over the planned timeframe of this Local Development Plan.

When we commenced our review and alignment with the Local Development Plan, the GP surgery had already identified that their physical space was at capacity/saturation point and the need to recruit more health care professionals and take on more new patients without property investment was not tenable. When planners approve piecemeal developments in small numbers, health gain is very difficult to secure to aid in that investment. It was not

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Clinical Chair: Dr Nigel Wells

Accountable Officer: Phil Mettam

considered an option to close the list to new patients, and unfortunately we couldn't wait for any scheme with developers to deliver a solution to immediate issues.

As a result we have been able to access monies from NHS England, in the form of an improvement grant for the monies to support the building of an extension to the GP owned surgery. This means that the NHS grants 2/3rds of the total project costs and the GPs fund a remaining 1/3rd. This results in the increased rent reimbursement for the new space being reduced for a period of 15 years...but there still remains an increase on the rent reimbursement for the new space and that is funded by the CCG.

This approval for the GP practice should be viewed as a holding position to address immediate needs and the extension is a 5 room extension to the current property. This funding was very much 'windfall' monies from the NHS to address predominantly already absorbed population growth.

As a health community we are still focussed on working with partners to understand the future population growth and how health can be engaged with the developer and other partners to understand the impact of future housing schemes to ensure that the changing way in which we deliver care, in an integrated way, see's facilities prioritised for health reflective of the community's needs.

As a result we are working with the Foundations Trusts, North Yorkshire County Council, NHS Property Services and the GPs on what the future of services could look like in Easingwold if co-located in a different way. So we are looking at what a reprovided health centre would look like across all service providers including GPs where working together would reflect new ways of delivering services to the community, this could be, and is likely to be in addition to the current GP property. We have a formal project structure which has been established to take this work forward, the outputs of which will form the detail and evidence to support any discussions with developers on impacts to health as a wider community than GP services.

I hope this gives you the detail you were seeking to respond to the Inspectors questions, but I'm happy to develop this answer further if required.

Yours sincerely



Stephanie Porter
Assistant Director Primary Care