

Primary Care Task and Finish Group – Terms of Reference

Approved by Council: 11 October 2021

1. Purpose

The purpose of this document is to define the Terms of Reference for the scrutiny task and finish group on Primary Care in Rutland.

2. Background

- As the pandemic has progressed, so has members correspondence from Residents highlighting concerns on accessing Primary Care.
- Healthwatch Rutland have been receiving reports from residents and raising concerns since December 2020
- Nationally, face to face access to General Practice is a concern.
- In September 2021, Rutland County Council voted to withdraw the Draft Local Plan and begin the process again, this means the strategic medium to long-term infrastructure plan now has to be reviewed.
- Housing growth and access (alongside transport) are some of the key concerns/issues that have been raised recently and form part of the emerging Rutland Place led Plan (otherwise known as the joint health and well-being strategy)
- In April 2022, the new Integrated Care System (ICS) will be implemented, this is a service led system.
- There is therefore an urgency in reviewing this matter and the wider contribution the Council can play in resolving these issues

3. Aims and Objectives

- To understand what Primary Care is available to the residents and how this can be accessed and understand the resident's perspective of this, highlighting the gaps.
- To understand the current and projected demand for primary care services
- To understand the projections and potential locations of new housing developments within the County
- To develop an understanding on the medium-term pressures on the infrastructure estate of Primary Care
- To develop an understanding of the NHS Capital Investment programme and the local funding priorities
- To make recommendations on "quick wins" to help close the gap between what is available and the resident's perspective of this.

- To explore how different delivery models, including the use of technology, could reduce pressures on the operational estate
- To make recommendation based on the findings for the long-term infrastructure planning for Primary Care in Rutland.

4. Proposed Scrutiny Task and Finish Group Members

At a meeting on the 22nd September 2021, the Scrutiny Commission proposed to bring forward a combined scrutiny Task & Finish Group to evaluate and gain evidence on the matter.

It is proposed that the Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee oversee the work of the Task and Finish Group.

Membership of the group will be politically balanced in accordance with Procedure Rule 15 and nominations should be sent to Governance by 29 October.

- There is an expectation that members will be co-ordinating and delivering face to face and telephone interviews as part of the initial evidence gathering sessions, as such, members will need to have some flexibility of time, especially in the first two months.
- It is proposed that the Group will comprise 7 Councillors to enable the Group to be comprised of those Councillors who have the time available to enable them to actively participate.

5. Chairman

Councillor Paul Ainsley will Chair. Councillor P Browne will be Vice-Chair.

6. Length of Review

The review is expected to take no more than six months and the Group will be aiming to deliver their final report to Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee for referral to April's Council meeting.

7. Timetable

The timetable, and the frequency and timing of meetings will be determined by the Task and Finish Group at their first meeting. However, there will be a meeting in November 2021, December 2021 and March 2022.

8. Methodology/Approach

The following information will be considered by the Group:

- Gain evidence from patients, carers, residents and Healthwatch on their experience of accessing care.
- Gain evidence from practices on the delivery of care
- Gain an understanding of how different models and technology can help improve access
- Understand and report on how infrastructure is modelled by the CCG and the operational estate is currently maintained
- Gain an understanding of how the NHS capital investment programme is developed and funded and the implications for the local area
- Understand how, as a Local Authority, we can work with, and influence, stakeholders to improve medium- and long-term infrastructure planning.

9. Reporting

- An interim report will be delivered with provisional findings and recommendations in January 2022, this also allows time to support and supplement the Rutland Place-led plan.
- The Group will submit a final report to Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee for endorsement and approval of its recommendations to Cabinet and Council

10. Officer Support

The Group will be assisted by the Governance Team for secretariat

The group will also be assisted by John Morley, Strategic Director of Adult Services and Health, and Penny Sharp, Strategic Director Place.

11. Finance

It is not anticipated to require additional budget in this financial year.

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