



Report to Cabinet

Date:	Tuesday 9 th April 2024
Title:	Joint Select Committee Review into Planning for Future Primary Healthcare in Buckinghamshire
Relevant councillor(s):	Cllrs Isobel Darby and Chris Poll, Joint Chairmen of the Review Group
Author and/or contact officer:	Kelly Sutherland, Scrutiny Manager
Ward(s) affected:	All wards

Recommendations:

Recommendations made by the Health & Adult Social Care Select Committee and the Growth Infrastructure & Housing Select Committee to Cabinet and the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board are as follows.

Recommendation 1

Mindful of the emerging ICB Primary Care Strategy and ICS Infrastructure Strategy, the ICB, in conjunction with the GPPA and BHT, should create a shared vision for Primary Care in Buckinghamshire as a matter of urgency. The vision and process should encompass: Development of an action plan and timeline for the delivery of a draft vision for Buckinghamshire within a year to include but not be limited to:

- A comprehensive audit and mapping exercise of current GP and primary care facilities as detailed in the Fuller Report, to include a condition review and SWOT analysis of current GP and primary care facilities**
- The mapping of this data against future growth identified in the emerging Buckinghamshire Local Plan**
- Incorporation of Census 2021 data, Public Health data and additional research to aid the mapping of future growth and need**

Recommendation 2

The Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing, the ICB and the GPPA should write to the Secretary of State for Health to highlight the barriers and inadequacies of the current funding formula and request a fundamental review of the funding mechanisms for Primary Care Estates and the methods of procuring new Estates Developments, including how the District Valuer assesses rental values. A new and improved 'fit for purpose' process needs to be developed that aligns more fully with the developing national ICS landscape and aims.

Recommendation 3

Buckinghamshire Council should work with the ICB, the GPPA and BHT to identify the co-resourcing of a key role to assist in the creation of a vision for future healthcare planning, as detailed in recommendation 1.

Recommendation 4

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) guidance for Town and Parish councils should be updated to raise awareness of how they could use their CIL funding allocation to support healthcare initiatives serving their local areas by funding or part funding projects. These could be initiatives or projects brought forward by their GP Practices, Local Members, their Community Board or by local voluntary organisations.

Recommendation 5

The Health and Wellbeing Board, Director of Public Health and the ICB should benchmark against comparable authorities in order to assess development of the Buckinghamshire JSNA, identify gaps and improvements and improve the Buckinghamshire provision, and specifically explore the development of Buckinghamshire bitesize housing growth digests.

Recommendation 6

Buckinghamshire Council and the ICB need to work together to update annually the quality and consistency of data which is used to inform service and estates planning, such as the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment. The JSNA should include the evidence base as a part of the new Local Plan and Public Health should work with Planning colleagues to produce bitesize summaries of housing growth across Buckinghamshire.

Recommendation 7

Public Health, the ICB and the Planning Policy team should review how the data contained within the latest Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment can be used to inform the next Local Plan. This would include looking at examples from other authorities to demonstrate how it has been achieved.

Recommendation 8

The GPPA Enabler Lead (Estates), once appointed, should be the key link to the ICB Primary Care Estates team and be included in all future discussions around Primary Care

Estates in Buckinghamshire. This role should aim to convene a regular programme of estates assessment / future planning meetings of key stakeholders as an early priority, the first of which should take place within 3 months of their appointment.

Recommendation 9

The ICB should formally assess the feasibility of increasing staffing levels in their Primary Care Estates team and consider including Data Analysts, in order to facilitate the development and delivery of a Primary Care Estates Plan at place as well as at the strategic level.

Recommendation 10

Buckinghamshire Council should formally assess how key staff members from the Planning and Public Health teams might work collaboratively with the enhanced ICB team, mentioned above, in the short and medium term. This would support the development and delivery of the Primary Care Estates Plan for Buckinghamshire and ensure the sustainability of the Buckinghamshire Local Plan.

Recommendation 11

As a matter of urgency, further improvements need to be made to the toolkit to ensure the results can be used to inform future estates planning. The toolkit should be re-directed to individual GP practices for completion. This project needs to be prioritised and a formal progress report of findings be produced within six months and presented to the HASC Select Committee for scrutiny.

Recommendation 12

The Buckinghamshire Executive Partnership (BEP) should commission a working group drawn from the ICB and the Council's estates teams and the GPPA. The group should identify and highlight opportunities within all organisations existing property portfolios which could expediate the delivery of additional health facilities. The working group should report back to the BEP.

Reason for decision: For Cabinet to consider the recommendations of the Health & Adult Social Care Select Committee and the Growth, Infrastructure and Housing Select Committee.

1. Executive summary

- 1.1 The Health & Adult Social Care Select Committee and the Growth, Infrastructure and Housing Select Committee agreed to set up a joint review into planning for future primary healthcare in Buckinghamshire. The scoping document was agreed at the respective Select Committee meetings in July 2023.

- 1.2 A small group of councillors from each Select Committee volunteered to participate in the review and two full days of evidence gathering took place on 29th September and 9th October 2023. The review group was jointly chaired by Cllr Isobel Darby and Cllr Chris Poll and comprised of Cllrs Qaser Chaudry, Robin Stuchbury, Nathan Thomas, Alan Turner and Stuart Wilson. Following the evidence gathering meetings the review group then met to discuss and agree its key findings and recommendations, which are presented in the report found at Appendix 1.

2. Content of the report

- 2.1 Primary Care in Buckinghamshire is one of the most important pathways for residents when accessing services to help them remain healthy, happy and prosperous. With significant housing growth expected within Buckinghamshire over the coming years, there is a real need to have a robust delivery plan for primary care estates which aligns with predicted housing growth to ensure that the population's health needs are met.
- 2.2 The current disconnect between planning and delivering future primary care estates and planned housing growth, through the Council's Local Plans, is leading to missed opportunities and significant concerns about future proofing primary care estates to meet the needs of a growing population.
- 2.3 The Integrated Care Board is responsible for commissioning primary care services to meet the needs of the local population.
- 2.4 Appendix 1 provides further context to the Select Committee's recommendations. Cabinet and representatives from the Integrated Care Board are asked to consider these recommendations and provide a response to the recommendations.

3. Legal and financial implications

- 3.1 These will be considered as part of the responses.

4. Corporate implications

- 4.1 These will be considered as part of the responses.

5. Local councillors & community boards consultation & views

- 5.1 The report and recommendations were produced by a cross-party review group of Members from the Health & Adult Social Care Select Committee and the Growth Infrastructure & Housing Select Committee.



6. Next steps and review

- 6.1 Cabinet will provide a response to the recommendations aimed at the Council and Integrated Care Board representatives will provide a response to those aimed at the ICB. The Health & Adult Social Care Select Committee and the Growth, Infrastructure and Housing Select Committee will then receive an update after 6 months and 12 months to monitor the implementation of all the recommendations.

7. Background papers

- 7.1 None.

