

Report to Saltash Town Council

Healthcare Action Group

The Action Group met on 28 February in the Council Chamber, and Councillors Bullock and Lennox-Boyd were present, representing the mayor, deputy mayor, councillor Griffiths, and Cornwall councillor Frank, who had had to send apologies. We are grateful that the Town Council continues to give unfailing support to our meetings and work.

Our main purpose at the meeting was to check on progress in implementing our “Patients First” Vision. There were two NHS representatives present, Dr Andy Sant from the Integrated Care Board (ICB), and Mrs Avril Tozer, Practice Manager at Saltash Health Centre. Both were very helpful, even though progress seems very slow. The Mayor has still not received any responses to his letters to the chief executives of the ICB and of Cornwall Partnership Trust (CPT).

It was clear from discussion that there should be follow-up sessions with:

1. The Chief Executive of CPT, together with Dr Sant to represent the ICB, to look for practical steps to further implementation, eg better engagement with the Trust’s local leaders, bidding for capital expenditure, and setting up a formal development project. (Neither of the two Action Group representatives of the Trust have attended the last two meetings, and did not send apologies.)
2. Representatives of NHS Property Services in the region to examine all local NHS buildings, and options for new initiatives, funding etc

These are to be organised by Dr Sant and Avril Tozer respectively.

Dental Services The Chair of the Health Centre PPG, George Muirhead, has been researching options for, at the very least, temporary or partial re-establishment of local NHS treatment facilities. The Action Group lent full support to the submission of a bid for funds to support this, which will be developed in the next three weeks by a sub-group led by George. He will also be monitoring action to provide dental care in local schools which we believe is being proposed by Cornwall Council.

There will also be a follow-up session of the Action Group with key leaders responsible for dental services in Plymouth and Cornwall

Next Meetings Provisionally 17 April and 22 May

We are fairly certain that these meetings should be supplemented with a public meeting in due course. What are the views of the Town Council Members on this?

Peter Thistlethwaite
Chair, Port View Surgery PPG
28 February 2024