

# **To receive an update on the future of the health care in Saltash and consider any actions and associated expenditure**

**Report to: Saltash Town Council**

**Date of Report: 02/04/2026**

**Councillor Jane Suter on behalf of the Health Action Group**

**Cllr Recommendations : Note the progress being made in providing healthcare within St Barnabus Hospital.**

## **Report Summary**

The Health Action Group has been meeting periodically over the past 2 years seeking to improve Healthcare within Saltash, with current priorities being

- To commence phlebotomy (blood testing) service at St Barnabus
- To consider the use of the day room at St Barnabus
- To consider how to improve NHS dentistry provision with Saltash

I recently attended the inaugural meeting of a Project Team to oversee to the works required to the day room to decide how to increase the use of the day room and oversee any works required. This Project Team is a small sub group of the Health Action Team, and it is proposed that only 1 Saltash Town Councillor attends these meetings. The following is a brief summary of the meeting provided by the Chair.

*The group received an update on the neighbourhood phlebotomy pilot, which will make it easier for local residents to access blood-testing services closer to home. The downstairs clinic room at St Barnabus Hospital is now ready, and work continues between local NHS partners to plan how the pilot will be delivered. The pilot is expected to start on a small scale and build up over time, offering additional choice alongside the phlebotomy appointments already available at Saltash Health Centre, Port View Surgery and the existing service at Windsor House in Plymouth. The aim is to test a neighbourhood model that could benefit patients across East Cornwall.*

*The meeting also discussed future uses of the downstairs day-room space at St Barnabas. Members agreed that the hospital should be viewed as a community asset, and a wide range of ideas were explored, including potential clinical and non-clinical uses. The next step will be for key partners—including local GP practices, the East Cornwall Primary Care Network, voluntary sector representatives, Cornwall Council and UHP—to visit the space and help shape a shared vision for how it could best serve the local community.*

Councillors should note that there are a number of practical issues to resolve before blood testing at St Barnabus can commence, and the positive progress being made by the group.

**Councillor Jane Suter**