

Report to Saltash Town Council

Healthcare Action Group - Progress Report for the community

The Action Group met again on August 23, and members unanimously agreed the broad content of a progress report to the community - **copy appended**. It would be extremely helpful if individual councillors would send us their responses to the report, and, indeed, pass the report on to family and friends who have personal experiences of healthcare or related comments to share with us. Responses can come direct, or via Councillors Bickford, Peggs and Griffiths.

We have not yet reached the point where the NHS has committed itself to a formal plan, with resources lined up to deliver it. That is what we will hope to achieve in the next phase. The Action Group meets again on October 4, and we hope to have received plenty of feedback from the community by then. We genuinely believe that a **community “movement”** needs to be created to increase the chances of overcoming the chronic lack of investment in recent years in local healthcare.

We should also mention that the Cornwall Integrated Care Board (which finances NHS services) is being required by the current government to make cuts of about 30% in the staff costs of its own organisation. One consequence of this is that the future role of Dr Andy Sant, who has made a significant impact on the Action Group’s work, is now uncertain. We do not wish to lose him, and the Mayor has already made formal representation to the ICB to this effect - but it is the lap of the NHS Gods now.

We want to thank the Council again for its continued support of this project, and hope that you can take a lead at this stage in building and sustaining the voice of the community over this.

George Muirhead
Peter Thistlethwaite

PPG Chairs

30 August 2023