

Report to: Council

Report Ref: C1910
Meeting Date: 3rd June 2019
Agenda Item: 18
Prepared By: Town Clerk



Subject: Health and Social Care WG

1.0 BACKGROUND

The Health and Social Care working group was established in 2011 with the initial intention of establishing what residents wanted from their healthcare provision in the town, after years of consultations and false starts.

Its initial work was achieved through a considerable number of face-to-face meetings with residents and stakeholders from Cheshire East Council and the health authorities. Through this work it was able to support the saving of the Stanley Centre, but unable to save Bexton Court and Tatton Ward, which still remain empty.

The working group was not as active in the 2015-2019 term as it had been 2011-2015. However, in January 2019 the working group did meet with Dr Patrick Kearns, representing the three GP practices in Knutsford where the following was noted:

- that the three practices are working much more closely together and have formed a task force to improve the efficiency of services in the Town e.g. sharing records to enable one surgery to hold later appointments that anyone can attend to
- the importance of community health initiatives and tackling loneliness (worse for health than smoking)
- that the practices are looking for a proposal from a developer to build a new medical practice and tell them what it will cost in rent so they can take that to the NHS for funding

The Knutsford Neighbourhood Plan sets out an obligation on the Town Council to develop a preventative health strategy for Knutsford in conjunction with health authorities, agencies and residents with the aspiration of the town becoming one of the most health towns to live, work and play in in Cheshire East. The delivery of this will need programming into the council's workstreams as part of developing the Council Strategic Plan 2019-2031.

2.0 DECISIONS REQUIRED

Council should consider whether a Health and Social Care working group is needed at the current stage.

Should Council consider it is needed it should defining its remit (skeleton terms of reference attached in Annex A) and appoint members.



LOCAL COUNCIL
AWARD SCHEME
QUALITY GOLD

ANNEX A: SKELETON TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. The Working Group will consist of **X** councillors determined by Council and the Town Clerk in an advisory capacity.
2. Membership to be reconfirmed / changed by the parent body at its first meeting at start of a new Mayoral year.
3. The working group may invite members of the public and key stakeholders to join the working group in an advisory capacity.
4. At its first meeting (or first in a new Mayoral year) the working group members shall:
 - a. Review these terms of reference for approval as appropriate.
 - b. Appoint an elected member as Lead Member who should ensure the entire working group's members are kept informed and involved with progress and act as the primary reporting channel back to the parent body.
5. In line with the task set by the Council, the purpose and remit of the working group is to:
 - a. **XXX**
 - b. **XXX**
 - c. **XXX**
6. The group does not have delegated powers to make decisions on behalf of the Town Council nor should exceed its purpose and remit (above) without the parent body's sanction to a change to this Terms of Reference
7. The group reports to **(Council/Environment Committee)**
8. The group shall provide timely reports to the parent body in the following manner:
 - a. Verbal updates and written reports when necessary
9. Meetings of the working group are not usually but may be public meetings.
10. Meetings will often be conducted under Chatham House Rules.

