

**Extract of the Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet  
held on 14 June 2018**

**8. GP Services Task and Finish Group**

Councillor Les Caborn (Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Health) introduced this item before handing over to Councillor Wallace Redford (Chair of the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee) and Councillor Margaret Bell (Chair of the Task and Finish Group).

Councillor Redford provided the background to the review stating that forecast and current development is leading to increasing demand for GP services which are themselves experiencing a reduction in provision. Councillor Bell summarised the key findings of the review and its recommendations as set out in the report.

Councillor Caborn thanked and commended the task and finish group for its efforts before expressing his support for the recommendations contained in the report.

Having acknowledged that the planning system could do more to support the co-ordination of development of GP practices it was agreed that the report should be sent to all Warwickshire MPs for their information.

Cabinet was informed that the NHS continues to use very old technology to plan GP provision. This is aggravated by a national shortage of GPs and long lead in times for trained GPs and the construction of new surgeries.

Whilst it was acknowledged that the County Council has little influence over government policy regarding GPs the meeting recognised that the Council does work with community pharmacies. It was considered that the Health and Wellbeing Board should review how it can assist in this area.

NHS England manages both capital and revenue allocations and consequently the Clinical Commissioning Groups can have little influence on this so far as the development of GP practices is concerned. It has proved difficult to get NHS England to discuss matters such as GP provision but there was hope that an upcoming meeting with the NHS England regional lead would provide an opportunity to do so..

Investment is required in the prevention agenda thus reducing demand for GPs.

In summing up Cabinet again congratulated members and officers on their efforts. The overall sense was that as GP practices are autonomous business the ability to directly influence their decisions is limited. Nevertheless it is important to ensure that MPs are aware of the Council's concerns.

**Resolved**

That Cabinet:

- 1) Notes the report of the GP Services Task and Finish Group, as approved by the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee;
- 2) Welcomes and supports the recommendations shown in Section 2 of the report, particularly those which concern lobbying the Government and recommendations made for actions by the County Council;
- 3) Confirms its decisions to the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee in order that implementation of agreed actions can be monitored; and
- 4) Notes that the Warwickshire Health and Wellbeing Board will also be invited to consider and respond to the issues for the wider Coventry and Warwickshire health 'system'.