

NOTICE(S) OF MOTION

Report of the County Solicitor

Recommendation: that consideration be given to any recommendations to be made to the County Council in respect of the Notice of Motion set out hereunder having regard to the relevant factual briefing/background papers and any other representations made to the Cabinet.

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1. The Notice of Motion submitted to the County Council by Councillor Greenslade set out below was referred to the Cabinet in accordance with Standing Order 8(2) - for consideration, reference to another committee or to make a recommendation back to the Council. A factual 'Briefing Note/Position Statement' prepared by the relevant Head of Service is also set out, to facilitate the Cabinet's discussion of each Notice of Motion.

### **'NHS in Devon - Public Enquiry**

*'While applauding the care provided by all our NHS medical staff the County Council is concerned at the current state of the NHS in Devon, the impact the NHS "Success Regime" is having and studies suggesting many GP's will be retiring, being examples of areas for concern.*

*Accordingly the County Council agrees to establish a local public inquiry to consider the state of the NHS in Devon'.*

### **Officers Briefing Note/Position Statement**

The Council recognises and supports the hard work and care provided by NHS colleagues in Devon across all settings and services. The Council also recognises the importance of working together across the NHS and Local Government where it makes sense to citizens for us to do so. This approach is most apparent in our partnership in the Devon Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP).

The Council's former Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee has previously undertaken significant pieces of work to oversee and scrutinise wide ranging aspects of both NHS provision as well as commissioning responsibilities in Devon. The newly formed Health and Adult Care Scrutiny Committee will want to establish its work programme and ensure, inter alia, a focus on improvements to the health outcomes of the whole population including children and young people in transition to adult services, taking account of relevant research, information and data including the key messages contained in the Annual Report of the Director of Public Health.

General Practices (GPs) are currently commissioned by NHS England, and are regulated by the Care Quality Commission (CQC). Overall the quality of primary care in Devon is of a very high standard. General Practices (GPs) in Devon deliver high quality outcomes and score well for patient experience and patient satisfaction indicators when compared to the England average e.g. 90% of people were successful in getting an appointment when they wanted it (compared to 85% nationally), 95% were satisfied with the convenience of an appointment (compared to 92% nationally, July 2016 figures). Of the CQC inspections undertaken in Devon to date all practices, bar one, were rated either 'good' or 'outstanding'.

Overall Devon has not experienced the same level of difficulty in maintaining GP numbers as other areas of the country with recruitment & retention levels sitting above the national average although the number of vacancies across Devon (including Plymouth and Torbay) is increasing, in part due to the demographic profile (almost a quarter of local GPs in Devon plan to leave the NHS in 5 years) and increasing numbers of people working part time .

Whilst these challenges are not unique to Devon, it is important they are addressed. One of the seven priorities in the Devon Sustainability and Transformation Plan is focused on tackling the many challenges facing primary care. Nationally, NHS England has also published 'the General Practice Forward View' (<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/gpfv.pdf>) which places primary care at the centre of delivering community health and wellbeing and identifies a range of potential future models of delivery.

A complementary report, undertaken by the Primary Care Workforce Commission entitled 'The Future of Primary Care – Creating teams for tomorrow' ([https://www.hee.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/documents/WES\\_The-future-of-primary-care.pdf](https://www.hee.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/documents/WES_The-future-of-primary-care.pdf)) sets out proposals to address the workforce issues for Primary Care and General Practice relating to recruitment, retention, and career attractiveness.

Torbay and South Devon Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and North, East and West Devon Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) have agreed a joint Strategy for General Practice: 2017-2021. This is aligned to the national primary care vision and puts high-quality General Practice at the centre of ensuring the best possible healthcare for the population of Devon. In order to achieve this the intention is to increase, and optimise capacity and capability within primary and community services, with a continued focus on delivering preventative and proactive care models, particularly for those identified as being at greater risk of poor health within our population.

The new Health and Adult Care Scrutiny Committee might wish also to explore with the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health Services how to best ensure the Council's views are represented to Government. That work could also provide overview and complement the focus that will also be undertaken by the primary care priority area, as part of the STP and the three Local Authorities in Devon are represented at political and officer levels as key partners.

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This Report has no specific equality, environmental, legal or public health implications that will not be assessed and appropriate safeguards and/or actions taken or included within the detailed policies or practices or requirements in relation to the matters referred to herein.

JAN SHADBOLT

[Electoral Divisions: All]

Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

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<u>Background Paper</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>File Reference</u>
Nil		