
JOINT DELIVERY COMMITTEE FOR NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Meeting held: 9th August 2016 at Kettering Borough Council

Present: Councillor Russell Roberts (Kettering) (Chair)
Councillors Jean Addison and Bob Eyles (Corby); Cllr David Brackenbury (East Northamptonshire); Cllr Lloyd Bunday (Kettering); Cllr Martin Griffiths (Wellingborough).

Also Present: David Cook (Chief Executive, Kettering Borough Council)
Martin Hammond (Deputy Chief Executive, Kettering Borough Council)
John Campbell (Chief Executive, Borough Council of Wellingborough)
Stephen Catchpole (SEMLEP)
Charles Amies (HCA)
Adrian Arnold (Joint Delivery Unit)
Andrew Longley (Joint Planning Unit)
Rob Harbour (Kettering Borough Council)
Andra Stopforth (Joint Planning Unit)
Adrian Sibley (Corby Borough Council)
Chris Wragg (Northamptonshire County Council)
Caroline Wardle (NNDC)
David Sissling (KGH)
Anne Ireson (Committee Administrator)

Action

16.JDC.01 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr David Jenney (East Northamptonshire); Cllr Steven North (East Northamptonshire); Cllr Tom Beattie (Corby); Cllr Elise Elliston (Corby); Cllr Brian Emerson (Wellingborough); Cllr Tom Partridge-Underwood (Wellingborough); Cllr Andre Gonzales de Savage (Northamptonshire CC); Carole Dehgani (Corby CCG); Dr Jo Watt (Corby CCG); Richard Palmer (East Northamptonshire); Hilary Chipping (SEMLEP); Sajeeda Rose (NEP); Norman Stronach (Corby); Paul Bland (East Northamptonshire); Julie Thomas (Wellingborough); Jenn Bell (Joint Delivery Unit).

16.JDC.02 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 19th April 2016 be approved and signed by the Chair.

16.JDC.03 MINUTES OF THE NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE STRATEGIC STAKEHOLDERS' GROUP

The minutes of the meeting of the North Northamptonshire Strategic Stakeholders' Group held on 19th July 2016 were circulated for information.

16.JDC.04 BUDGET UPDATE AND CAPACITY FUND AWARD

A report was submitted which updated members on the Budget 2015/16 and the New Capacity Budget 2016/17.

The Manager of the Joint Delivery Unit explained that there was no direct correlation between the two financial columns in Table 1 of the report as the columns represented different time periods. However, £128k remained unallocated, with an underspend of £120k for 2015/16. This underspend represented a deliberate exercise due to the timing of the award for 2016/17 running late and uncertainty over the final sum awarded which meant that a cautionary approach had been necessary.

This year, £250k had been awarded for one year only, which was felt to be disappointing given the scale of growth in North Northamptonshire and developments in progress or coming forward at the pre-application stage. The original bid had been for two years. In addition, a garden village within East Northamptonshire was also being proposed (subject to a separate bidding process). It was felt that £128k currently unallocated was likely to be insufficient, and there would therefore be a risk to some work such as design, legal, expertise or viability elements.

There was, however, potential for additional funding from other sources, such as the HCA. Criteria were, as yet, unknown, but discussions were continuing with DCLG and

would hopefully be available within the next two months. This would enable a report to be brought to the next meeting of the Committee.

Adrian
Arnold

During discussion, it was felt that uncertainty over funding could potentially damage the project. However, it was accepted that the national policy framework was currently in a situation of flux and may be subject to change. It was hoped that there would be more clarity on where any new emphasis may be by the time of the Government's Autumn Statement.

RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the progress made and the underspend of £120k in 2015/16 be noted; and
- (ii) the new budget be noted.

16.JDC.05 HEALTH UPDATE

A report was submitted which kept members informed and updated on the North Northamptonshire Health Needs Assessment.

It was noted that the baseline assessment had been received from Quod (the consultants), and reviewed by the Joint Delivery Unit, the local CCGs and public health officers. The outputs from the study were expected within the next few months and would be reported to the Committee at a future date.

Andra
Stopforth

The consultants would now need to review the most up-to-date s106 agreements for each of the SUEs to assess if these were meeting the needs or identify what further work may be required.

David Sissing (Kettering General Hospital) addressed the Committee and made the following points:-

- The emphasis was now on longer term planning (up to five years ahead) and was welcomed
- The two hospitals in Northamptonshire were working closely together on transformational change and collaborating on providing single services for the County over the two sites

- There was closer working with community colleagues to ensure smooth patient transfers
- There was a growing organisational process of primary care through groups of GP practices
- Work on long-term financial planning would continue to deliver high quality care
- Work was ongoing on looking into opportunities to deliver joint back-office services, such as HR and IT
- Demand had increased and was now up 10% on last year
- There was a worrying increase in delayed transfer of care, whereby patients occupied beds when they could receive more appropriate treatment elsewhere.
- Proposals by NCC to cut services for Adult Social Care were causing a great degree of concern, and Kettering General Hospital expected to participate fully in any consultation and engagement process in this respect

In discussion, the Committee felt that good work was being done, particularly in respect of joint working to make savings. It was felt that the North Northamptonshire Joint Delivery Committee should have an opinion on NCC proposals for cuts to the Adult Social Care budget in respect of the potential impact on building sustainable urban extensions and extending existing communities.

It was felt that cuts to funding could result in an additional burden being placed on local councils. In terms of the growth agenda, future availability of resources was felt to be very important, particularly as the health landscape was slightly different in each of the four local authority areas. Any comments made by the Joint Delivery Committee should therefore focus on joined-up thinking in respect of overall growth in North Northamptonshire, with individual local authorities submitting their own views too.

In terms of delayed transfer of care, it was noted that numbers were increasing and the situation was worsening. Northamptonshire was already one of the poorest performing areas in this respect nationally. Concern was expressed that this issue could become critical and impact upon the growth agenda in the longer term.

RESOLVED that the contents of the report be noted and consultation responses be drafted collectively and individually as outlined above.

16.JDC.06 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Andrew Longley of the Joint Planning Unit gave the following updates.

Joint Core Strategy

The Inspector's Report had been received on 22nd June. The Joint Core Strategy had been adopted by the Joint Planning Committee on 14th July. The Strategy would set the framework for decisions going forward.

The Inspector had accepted that delivery of urban extensions was positive in terms of achievable starts being made on sites. The support of other agencies, such as SEMLEP and HCA, was acknowledged. It was noted that failure to deliver the urban extensions at an acceptable rate might trigger a review of the CSS and it was therefore incumbent on the Joint Planning Committee (and therefore this committee as well) to continually monitor progress, but it was equally understood that conditions outside of local control would impact on delivery rates.

Starter Homes

A submission had been made to CLG , with 12 priority sites agreed across North Northamptonshire, with three in each of the four authority areas. Work would continue with individual Councils on these sites. A decision was awaited from government.

Garden Village

A garden village in East Northants had been proposed, which was covered by policy in the Joint Core Strategy. A separate funding stream existed for authorities bringing forward between 1,500 and 10,000 dwellings on new sites. A project board had been set up to take the proposal forward. A report would be brought back to a future meeting.

It was felt that it would be useful to draw a comparison to the success of Mawsley as an example of a new community of this scale.

Discussion was held on the need to continue to monitor the potential for house-builders to form an oligopoly. However, it was noted that discussions in this respect had already been

held with DCLG, as this did have the potential to affect delivery of houses in all four SUEs. It was noted that securing joint statements from house-builders was key, and would form part of the work of the Joint Delivery Unit.

The inclusion of timescales within s106 agreements was discussed. It was noted that timescales could be considered as part of the assessment of applications. Technical work in relation to infrastructure would need to be undertaken to underpin the agreed timescales. However, there was a view that timescales were not legally binding.

16.JDC.07 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Following a request for the proposed meeting on 20th October 2016 to be rescheduled, a potential date of 23rd November had been identified.

Anne Ireson

It was agreed that, subject to room availability, the next meeting would be held on 23rd November at East Northamptonshire Council.

The following dates for future meetings were therefore agreed:-

- Wednesday, 23rd November 2016
- Tuesday, 31st January 2017
- Thursday, 13th April 2017

The meeting started at 7.00 pm and ended at 8.10 pm

Signed
Chair

AI