

MALDON LOCAL PLAN EXAMINATION – MATTER 10: INFRASTRUCTURE I1 & I2

HEARING STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF NHS ENGLAND

Issue 1: Question 1 – Is the approach to delivering infrastructure appropriate, justified, effective, soundly based and consistent with the Infrastructure Delivery Plan and national policy?

1. NHS England has liaised extensively with the Council during the preparation of the Local Plan with regard to Policies I1 and I2 to ensure that the planning policy basis for securing the necessary healthcare infrastructure and funding to meet the needs arising from residential growth in the District is compliant with the National Planning Policy Framework and the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations (2010), as amended.

Issue 1: Question 2 – Do Policies I1 and I2 identify sufficiently the nature and type of infrastructure required?

2. As stated in NHS England representations, the healthcare impacts arising from residential growth in the District could be mitigated through the provision of additional healthcare facilities and services, in line with current NHS procurement guidelines, or through the reconfiguration, refurbishment, re-equipping and expansion of existing surgeries to build in further capacity.
3. NHSE supports the flexibility afforded by Policies I1 and I2, which would allow healthcare impacts arising from residential growth to be mitigated in the most appropriate way, according to the scale of the development proposed and the level of mitigation required.

Issue 1: Question 6 – How much development can take place on each allocated site *before* a specified piece of infrastructure in CED10 Appendix 13 has to be provided?

4. The NHS England representations demonstrate that there is an overall capacity deficit in the surgeries across the District. Therefore, the healthcare impacts arising from residential growth would need to be mitigated prior to the first occupation of each development.

Issue 1: Question 7 - Much of the infrastructure relies on pooled funds from various sites. Bearing in mind the answer to the above question, will this pooling arrangement prevent the delivery of individual sites if monies are not available for key infrastructure works because other sites have not progressed as fast?

5. Delivery of the measures to increase healthcare capacity to accommodate residential growth may be delayed if developer contributions are not available due to delayed progress of individual sites.

Issue 1: Question 12 – On I2, the Council accepts that the delivery of a new Community Hospital cannot be committed to within the plan period. Is the Council’s consequential suggested modification to policy I2 at Ref 057 in SD04b acceptable?

6. NHS England and Mid Essex Clinical Commissioning Group are engaged in ongoing liaison with the Council with regard to the proposed re-provision of services currently accommodated at St Peter’s Hospital.
7. These proposals are currently at an early stage of preparation and will be subject to public consultation. Therefore, the Local Plan should be sufficiently flexible to support the re-provision of St Peter’s Hospital health services at such a time as the proposals have progressed further.
8. As it is likely that current healthcare services would continue to operate from St Peter’s Hospital until alternative accommodation has been progressed, NHS England has no objection to the proposed amendment to Policy I2 at Ref 057 in SD04.

Lawson Planning Partnership Ltd, 9th January 2015
Consultant to NHS England