

Agenda Item 12f

Ordinary Council Meeting of: 19 July 2022
Corkery/Mellor

AGENDA ITEM 12 (f) - GPs in the City

Amendment

To add the following to the end of the motion:

"In January 2020 the Labour Group put forward proposals to Full Council which included the following:

"Ask the Cabinet to work with the Portsmouth Primary Care Alliance to develop a recruitment campaign to encourage more GP's to come and work in Portsmouth.

"Ask the Cabinet to work with the Portsmouth Primary Care Alliance and, where appropriate, health trusts to explore the possibility of jointly supporting the recruiting of salaried GP's to work with existing practices to manage the increased workload of patients due to GP retirements.

"Ask the Cabinet to explore further the use of city council owned property assets, or the acquisition of property assets, to support the provision of local health services."

Full Council welcomes the Liberal Democrat administration now taking up these ideas but regrets it has taken them two and a half years to do so. The February 2020 response from the Liberal Democrat administration to the petition asking to "Save Hanway Medical Practice" said:

"The City Council will organise a three way conference between the CCG (on behalf of the NHS), GPs and the City Council to come up with a strategy to make sure GP services are provided across the city, especially in areas of deprivation."

Full Council expresses regret the administration has not yet followed through on this pledge.

That same response also said:

"The City Council Property Team will therefore work with GPs and the CCG to see if the City Council can help preserve health provision in areas of the City. The first test of this will be establishing the right property ownership

model at the John Pounds Centre Surgery in Portsea to ensure the continued provision of community health services from this location"

Full Council notes the property issues at the council owned John Pounds Centre Surgery have still not been resolved and local people in Portsea have been without access to GP services in their area as a result.

At the March 2022 meeting of Full Council the Liberal Democrat Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Social Care pledged to Portsea Action Group he would keep them updated on the provision of GP services in their area however no contact has been made since by any member of the Liberal Democrat administration.

In January 2020 the Liberal Democrat Leader of the Council Gerald Vernon-Jackson said he thought his administration could put a GP surgery into the empty council owned commercial unit in Chaucer House on Isambard Brunel Road.

Full Council regrets this has not happened and the fact this unit remains empty to this day, some two and a half years later.

Full Council welcomes this motion from the Liberal Democrat administration on dealing with the local GP crisis and hopes its record of inaction and broken promises will change into meaningful progress for local residents.

Proposed by (Name) _____ Councillor Cal Corkery

Signed _____

Seconded by (Name) _____ Councillor Kirsty Mellor

Signed _____