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**30 November 2017**

**Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (UHB) Response**

1. **Purpose**

This briefing presents the response from the Cardiff and Vale UHB to the Vale of Glamorgan Council on the following planning application:-

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| **Application No.** | 2016/01427/OUT |
| **Location** | Land off Cowbridge Road, St Athan |
| **Nature of development** | New development of up to 253 homes |
| **Proposal** | Residential development of up to 253 units and associated work, including the provision of public open space and strategic access points |
| **Potential number of residents** | 582 residents (2.3 persons per household) of which 66% /384 residents would be new to the Vale (LDP population predictions) |

1. **Background**

Cardiff and Vale UHB is one of the largest NHS organisations in the UK. The UHB is responsible for the health of around 492,000 people living in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan, the provision of local primary care services (GP practices, dentists, optometrists and community pharmacists) and the running of hospitals, health centres and community health teams. Together, these provide a full range of public health and health services for local residents and for those from further afield who use the specialist services.

1. **Policy Framework**

The policy framework for this advice is as follows:

1. **National Healthcare Service Provision Policies**

* Welsh Government (2015) Our Plan for Primary Care Services for Wales up to March 2018 (1)
* Welsh Government (2015) A Planned Primary Care Workforce for Wales (2)
* Welsh Government (2015) The Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act (3)
* Welsh Government (2014) Planning Policy Wales (Edition 8) Chapter 12 Infrastructure and Services (4)
* Welsh Government (2014) Achieving Prudent Healthcare (5)
* Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act (2014) (6)
* Welsh Government (2013) ‘Delivering Local Healthcare: Accelerating the Pace of Change’ (7)
* Welsh Government (2012) ‘Together for Health’ (8)
* Welsh Government (2012) Shared Purpose, Shared Delivery (9)
* Welsh Government (2010). ‘Setting the Direction: Primary and Community Services Strategic Delivery Programme’ (10)

There are a number of consistent and key messages contained in the documents above:-

* Improve health and wellbeing outcomes
* Move towards a ‘social’ model of health, which promotes physical, mental and social wellbeing
* Strengthen primary and community care and reduce pressure on acute hospital care
* Modernise facilities and systems to support new ways of working.

1. **Regional Healthcare Service Provision Policies**

Conclusions and Recommendations of the South Wales Programme (2014) (11) are being taken forward by the South Wales Collaborative.

1. **Local Healthcare Service Provision Policies**

* Cardiff & Vale University Health Board (2015) Shaping Our Future Wellbeing Strategy 2015 – 2025 (12)
* Cardiff & Vale University Health Board (draft January 2014) UHB Primary Care Estates Strategy 2014-2017 (13)
* Cardiff & Vale University Health Board (2014) Integrated Medium Term Plan 2015/16 – 2017/18 Caring for People; Keeping People Well (14)
* Cardiff & Vale University Health Board (January 2008 update) Integrated Healthcare Estate Strategy for Primary Care Premises. (15)

At the heart of the these strategies is the desire to achieve joined up care based on home first; avoiding harm, waste and variation; empowering people; and delivering outcomes that matter to people. Key to delivery will be the transformation of health services to meet population need and working with Local Authority and third sector partners to develop a network of flexible, shared multi-functional community based facilities.

1. **National Public Health Policies**

* **Planning and health**
* Institute of Health Equity (2012) The Marmot Review: implications for Spatial Planning (16)
* **Environment, physical activity and play**
  + Sport England & Public Health England (2015) Active Design. Planning for health and wellbeing through sport and physical activity (17)
  + TCPA & Public Health England (2014) Planning Healthy-Weight Environments. A TCPA reuniting health with planning project (18)
  + Welsh Government. Active Travel (Wales) Bill 2013 (19)
  + Public Health England (2013) Healthy people, healthy places briefing. Obesity and the environment: increasing physical activity and active travel (20)
  + Faculty of Public Health (2013) Built environment and physical activity (21)
  + Faculty of Public Health (2013) Transport and Health. A briefing statement. (22)
  + Academy of Medical Royal Colleges (2013) Measuring Up. The Medical Profession's prescription for the Obesity Crisis (23)
  + National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (2012) Walking and Cycling: local measures to promote walking and cycling as forms of travel or recreation (24)
  + Welsh Government (2009) Technical Advice Note 16: Sport, Recreation and Open Space (25)
  + Welsh Government (2009) Creating an Active Wales (26)
  + National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (2008) Physical activity and the environment (27)
  + Department of Transport (2007) Manual for Streets (28)
* **Food**
  + Welsh Government (2014) Town Centres and Retail Dynamics: Towards a Revised Retail Planning Policy for Wales (29)
  + Sustain (2014) Planning sustainable cities for community food growing. A guide to using planning policy to meet strategic objectives through community food growing (30)
  + Garden Organic and Sustain (2014) The benefits of gardening and food growing for health and wellbeing (31)
  + Public Health England (2013) Healthy people, healthy places briefing. Obesity and the environment briefing: regulating the growth of fast food outlets (32)
* **Alcohol**
  + Welsh Government (2013) Working Together to Reduce Harm Substance Misuse Delivery Plan 2013 - 2015 (33)
  + University of Stirling (2013) Health First: an evidence-based alcohol strategy for the UK (34)

1. **Local Public Health Policies**

* Vale of Glamorgan Local Development Plan 2011-2026 (35)
* Cardiff & Vale Healthy Weight Group
  + - Physical Activity Action Plan
    - Eat Well Action Plan

1. **Healthcare Service Provision Issues**

The following summarises the likely impact of the planning application on healthcare service provision in the immediate and surrounding areas.

* 1. **Primary Care**

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| **Primary Care** | The UHB is responsible for ensuring access to NHS primary care services in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan, including General Practitioners (GPs), Community Pharmacists, Dentists and Optometrists. The UHB works with a best practice GP to patient ratio of 1:1,800 and the current rate of access to NHS dentistry is 55% of the population.  There are branch surgeries in St Athan of   * Western Vale Family Practice (Cowbridge) at The Surgery, The Square, St Athan * Eryl Surgery (Llantwit Major) at the Chapel Surgery, Gileston Road, St Athan   Current GP provision near to the area includes   * Cowbridge & Vale Medical Practice (approximately 5 miles from the development) * Western Vale Family Practice, Cowbridge (approximately 5 miles from the development) * Eryl Surgery, Llantwit Major (approximately 4.5 miles from the development)   A community pharmacy is available in St Athan.  Dental practices are available in Cowbridge and Llantwit Major. |
| **Comment on application** | This application is for a development of up to 253 homes / 582 residents (2.3 persons per household) of which 66% /384 residents would be new to the Vale (LDP population predictions)  **GP surgery provision**  0.35 wte GPs and associated premises and staff will be required to provide primary care services to the residents of the development. The existing branch surgery premises in St Athan would require improvement to accommodate the increased number of residents.  **Pharmacy provision**  Pharmacy openings are led by an applicant making an application which is considered with regard to the relevant regulations.  **Dental provision**  The UHB’s NHS dental allocation from Welsh Government is ring fenced cash limited funding and in turn NHS dental contracts are based on a fixed contract value to deliver a specified amount of dental activity per year. NHS dental practices do not have the capacity to accommodate NHS growth within their practices without a recurrent increase to their baseline contract values, even if they have the structural capacity to accommodate extra patients.  NHS dental practices are not geographically bound and can draw patients from anywhere within the UK. Therefore, the impact of the proposed development on the surrounding dental practices or on the requirement to provide a new practice is difficult to assess.  **Opticians**  Optometric care is non-cash limited and opticians can accept an increase in resident numbers provided they have the internal capacity. |
| **Requirements** | For this development, it is likely that minimal modifications to an existing GP practice will be required to cope with the increase in demand assuming that a local practice can accommodate the increase. An additional 0.35 wte GP plus associated staff will be required to deliver services. |
| **Costs** | Financial modelling suggests that the UHB will require a pro rata increase in annual revenue funding in the region of £644,736 for the 384 residents new to the Vale of Glamorgan (based on current UHB allocation of £1679 per person) |

* 1. **Community Based Health Care**

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| **Community and Intermediate Care** | The UHB is responsible for delivering a range of health care in people’s own homes and in community clinics.  No Community Health Clinic is provided in the vicinity of the development. The nearest Community Health Clinic to the development is located in Llantwit Major (approximately 4.5 miles from the development). |
| **Comment on application** | We note in the plans that there is no mention of provision of health care services or facilities. |
| **Requirements** | Building space will be required locally for additional District Nursing Services, Health and Social Care Support Staff, Health Visiting Services, Mental Health Services and for the provision of local specialist outreach services/clinics. |
| **Costs** | Financial modelling suggests that the UHB will require a pro rata increase in annual revenue funding in the region of £644,736 for the 384 residents new to the Vale of Glamorgan (based on current UHB allocation of £1679 per person) |

* 1. **Hospital Based Secondary Care**

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| **Secondary care** | The UHB is responsible for the provision of emergency and scheduled hospital treatment and mental health care. The UHB also provides certain specialist health care services for people from across Wales. |
| **Comment on application** | We note in the plans that there is no mention of provision of health care services or facilities. |
| **Costs** | Financial modelling suggests that the UHB will require a pro rata increase in annual revenue funding in the region of £644,736 for the 384 residents new to the Vale of Glamorgan (based on current UHB allocation of £1679 per person) |

1. **Public Health Issues**

The following summarises the likely impact of the planning application on public health issues in the immediate and surrounding areas:-

**5.1 Physical activity**

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| **Walking and cycling** | Evidence is clear that being physically active benefits individual and population health by reducing the risks of obesity and chronic conditions. The built environment can support individuals, families and communities to be active by ensuring interconnectivity within and between developments, prioritising the pedestrian over motorised transport, prioritising active travel structures and layouts, and promoting access to community and retail facilities by walking or cycling.  To improve population health, promote sustainability and enhance community safety, policy guidance recommends the prioritising of walking and cycling, reducing traffic speed and encouraging children’s outside play. |
| **Comment on application** | The application supports walking and cycling and active travel options. Some interconnectivity within the development is proposed. Children’s play areas are proposed.  However no mention is made of ‘walkable neighbourhoods’ as a key element of the street hierarchy or the implementation of 20mph zones/schemes within the development. The provision for active play by children within and around the streets is omitted. |
| **Requirements** | It is recommended that   * The pedestrian is prioritised throughout the development, 20mph zones should cover the entire development and use made of a variety of methods to reduce and control traffic speed (signage, road materials, design, layout, shared surfaces etc). There is an opportunity to implement Car-Free Zones in this development. * Interconnectivity within the development should be strengthened and interconnectivity with other developments and facilities/services nearby facilitated * Informal outdoor active play areas in addition to open spaces should be designed in and provided. |

**5.2 Open Space**

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| **Access to open space** | Numerous studies point to the direct benefits of well maintained green open spaces to both physical and mental health and well-being. Green spaces have been associated with a decrease in health complaints, blood pressure and cholesterol, improved mental health and reduced stress levels, perceived better general health and the ability to face problems. There is strong evidence that provision of green space effectively improves mental health.  Planning guidance recommends a minimum standard for outdoor playing space of 2.4 hectares (6 acres) per 1,000 population. |
| **Comment on application** | The application provides some access to green open spaces and formal play areas. |
| **Requirements** | It is recommended that the following is adhered to   * planning guidance that identifies minimum standards for outdoor playing space of 2.4 hectares (6 acres) per 1,000 population   It is also suggested that negotiations occur to ensure that the open spaces are well maintained to maximise impact on health. |

* 1. **Food environment**

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| **Food environment** | Access to a food environment that promotes healthy eating is known to improve health, maintain a healthy weight and reduce the risks of developing long term chronic conditions. The built environment can provide access to food growing spaces within communities as gardens, allocated food growing spaces near community buildings and as allotments. Additionally, the provision of retail units selling fruit and vegetables and restricting the positioning of hot food takeaways in communities is known to influence the health of the communities. |
| **Comment on application** | The application includes the provision of gardens which may be used for food growing. The potential use of other land for food growing has not been included.  No retail units are proposed. |
| **Requirements** | It is recommended that land, in addition to gardens, is made available for food growing. |

* 1. **Alcohol**

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| **Availability of alcohol** | Binge drinking and regular excess alcohol intake impacts on individual and population health, increases use of health services and increases the risks of long term chronic conditions. Local and easy availability of alcohol is known to encourage alcohol intake. The built environment can reduce availability of alcohol through restricting the selling of alcohol at new retail units in developments.  Future policy guidance will consider the restriction of the selling of alcohol at new retail units. |
| **Comment on application** | Not applicable |
| **Requirements** | No applicable |

1. **Recommendations** 
   1. **Healthcare service provision**

In summary, our healthcare service provision requirements are:-

* It is likely that minimal modifications to existing GP practices will be required to cope with the increase in demand assuming that a local practice can accommodate the increase. An additional 0.35 wte GPs plus associated staff will be required to deliver services.
* Financial modelling suggests that the UHB will require a pro rata increase in annual revenue funding in the region of £644,736 for the 384 residents new to the Vale of Glamorgan (based on current UHB allocation of £1679 per person).
  1. **Public health issues**

In summary, our public health recommendations are:-

* Prioritise the pedestrian throughout the development, extend 20mph zones across the entire development, use a variety of methods to reduce and control traffic speed, take the opportunity to implement Car-Free Zones and design in informal outdoor active play areas in addition to open spaces.
* Strengthen interconnectivity within the development and facilitate interconnectivity with other developments and facilities/services nearby.
* Adhere to the planning guidance that identifies minimum standards for outdoor playing space and distances to local provision of spaces and negotiate to ensure the open spaces are well maintained.
* Make available land for community food growing

**Response agreed by:-**

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30 November 2017

For further information contact:-

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