

Task and Finish Group on Local Health Needs Assessment in the OX12 Locality

The second meeting of the task and finish group took place on Tuesday 23rd April 2019. Apologies were received from Cllr Rooke and Cllr Lovatt.

A summary of the discussion points in the group are as follows:

- The importance of an evaluation process was highlighted again, the Project Group are currently working on this and will bring an update back to the task and finish group at the next meeting. The point was made that this is an integral part of the process and must be in place before any future projects like this commence in the future.
- A point was raised around what the various groups were expecting from the survey and wider aims of the project. The plan for the project was discussed in detail, and whilst there was support for the approach, and also acknowledgement that the project is still very much in the early phases, it was noted that the process and outputs of the project may not have been sufficiently communicated to various stakeholders, particularly those not familiar with the working of the NHS.
- Members of the task and finish group understood and supported the need to ensure that as wide a possible range of possibilities and options were considered for the outcome of the project. However, caution was noted around raising expectations too high when there are widely known constraints on funding and resources.
- An update on the survey was provided. There was an encouraging response rate received so far, however the Project Group identified that more work needed to be done to get a higher representative sample from the under 25 age bracket. The project group assured members that they were doing everything possible to reach out and support those that were having difficulties completing the survey.
- Concern was noted over flyers that were been produced by members of the Save the Wantage Community Hospital Campaign Group and were included with some of the hand delivered surveys, by members of the Stakeholder Reference Group who are also on the hospital campaign group. The flyer asked people to remember and stress the importance of the community hospital and directed people to a specific question in the survey prompting a specific response in respect of the future of the hospital. This highlights the point above, about needing clearer communication on the purpose of the survey; the project is not yet in the design phase of answering the needs of the community, rather it is still trying to establish the current use of resources.
- The Project Team have set up and advertised a number of roadshows in the OX12 area to promote the survey and answer questions on the process. Members of the task and finish group will be attending as many of the roadshows as possible.

The members of the task and finish group acknowledge that the original milestones set out in the Gantt chart provided by the project group were facing minor delays. These delays are, for the time being, acknowledged by the group as it is important to ensure the right outcomes are achieved, rather than a rushed outcome which doesn't fully highlight and meet the needs of the people within the OX12 locality. A similar sentiment was noted in the correspondence received from the Chair of the Stakeholder Reference Group

Members agreed to hold an additional meeting of the task and finish group to hear views from a clinician within the Primary Care Network, the Stakeholder Reference Group and the Campaign Group.