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SHROPSHIRE LOCAL PLAN

EXAMINATION IN PUBLIC STAGE 1: July 2022

Matter 7 – Strategic Settlements

Written Statement prepared on behalf of Midlands Partnership Foundation NHS Trust (MPFT) and Shropshire Community NHS Trust (SCHT) (ID Reference: AO669)

OUR REFERENCE: 21011 DATE: June 2022

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Document Prepared by	The Tyler Parkes Partnership Ltd.
Document Approved by	DC
Document Status	Final
Document Reference	21011

Background

1. The Regulation 19 representation and this statement have been prepared by Tyler Parkes on behalf of the Property Team at the Midlands Partnership Foundation NHS Trust (MPFT) and Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust (SCHT) and seeks to address the collective requirements of the NHS, including the Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust, in seeking financial contributions towards the delivery of essential healthcare infrastructure in Shropshire to support the growing population over the plan period.

2. Specific changes to the plan have been suggested in relation to Policy DC25 which we understand will be discussed during Stage 2 of the Public Examination. Notwithstanding this, the Inspectors questions for Stage 1 raise a number of matters where comment on behalf NHS interests is appropriate.

3. There is a strong relationship between the local plan and CIL (and whatever replaces this as set out in the Levelling Up and Planning Bill), S106 and the Strategic Infrastructure and Investment Plan and supporting processes. Discussions with the Council's planning team on 18 May 2022, attended by David Carter, Tyler-Parkes Senior Planning Consultant, Duncan Burton from the Property Team at the Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust and Edward West, Planning Policy and Strategy Manager at Shropshire Council, recognise the importance of health infrastructure. However, to date, the Council accept that the focus has been on primary care.

4. The result is that financial support for health infrastructure as a whole, through the development process has not been as high as it might have been. Nevertheless, it is recognised this is 'water under the bridge' and it will be much more fruitful to look forward by strengthening the policy framework and pro-actively improving collaborative working.

5. The policy framework in the local plan should not only explicitly enable support for health infrastructure provision but also be clear that:

- The type of facilities and activities falling within 'health infrastructure', which should include acute services, mental health care, community care as well as primary care facilities,
- Developer funding towards the gap in both capital and revenue expenditure arising directly from the proposed scale of growth should be eligible, in principle, for developer contributions, and
- That such provision should ensure that its provision takes high priority in the list of infrastructure requirements.

6. It is considered that sustainable development cannot be achieved when growth takes place if the quality of service provision for the existing population is compromised and if otherwise unfunded services, equipment and facilities are unable to meet the needs arising from the additional population.

7. Growth in Shropshire will have profound implications for future service requirements. The NHS locally fully appreciates this has implications and obligations for them as well as the Council and other service providers. The pending reorganisation of the NHS away from Clinical Commissioning Groups to new Integrated Health Boards (in July 2022), the establishment of supporting networking arrangements to support the Strategic Infrastructure and Investment Plan (ongoing), changes to the planning system through the Levelling Up Bill, as well as the new local plan broadly dovetail, thus helping to facilitate improvements to collaborative working moving forward.

8. Below, brief notes are set out in relation to the Matter 7 Questions relevant to NHS service provision.

Matter 7 – Strategic settlements (policies S19 - S21) Issue: Whether the Local Plan has been positively prepared and whether it is justified, effective and consistent with national planning policy in relation to the overall approach to strategic settlements.

Policy S19 – Clive Barracks, Tern Hill:

Q3. Have the infrastructure requirements of the proposed strategic settlement been adequately identified and costed? Including the requirements for: e) healthcare

19. The potential implications of the proposed development for health infrastructure provision are not covered by the policy.

Q4. Is there evidence that the infrastructure requirements will be delivered within the necessary timescales?

20. Ongoing liaison will be required to ensure this occurs.

Policy S20 – Former Ironbridge Power Station: 4. Have the infrastructure requirements of the proposed strategic settlement been adequately identified and costed? Including the requirements for: e) healthcare

21. Policy S20 states that a new medical centre will be provided on site should it be required. Liaison taking place on behalf of the CCG has secured a commitment to the provision of primary health care facilities. These would be programmed to dovetail with development of the allocation and likely to be built c2033/34. There is no reference in the policy to other aspects of health care.