

Policy BSC 8: Securing Health and Well-Being

B.145 Planning decisions can have an effect on travel to work, schools, noise and air quality, access to services, climate change and social networks which can all contribute to health and well-being. The local environment has a fundamental impact on the health and well-being of local people. By providing facilities such as local open space this allows for activities such as walking and cycling, promoting healthy lifestyles. The Council will work with the local community to provide safe and accessible environments and to identify the need for and provide local facilities.

B.146 The Council will continue to work closely with the healthcare providers, partners and the NHS across its delivery bodies to:

- ensure the provision of additional and reconfigured health and social care facilities
- identify the anticipated primary care needs of local communities
- identify the capacity needs of local communities
- meet the healthcare requirements of local communities.

B.147 As part of the changes to the NHS brought about by the Health and Social Care Act 2012, Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) and Strategic Health Authorities (SHAs) ceased to exist on 31 March 2013. Their responsibilities were taken over by Clinical Commissioning Groups and the NHS Trust Development Authority. A Health & Wellbeing Board has been set up for Oxfordshire which is a partnership between Oxfordshire County Council, the NHS and the people of Oxfordshire designed to ensure that we all work together to improve health and wellbeing.

B.148 The Board's vision for Oxfordshire for 2016 is:

- more children and young people will lead healthy, safe lives and will be given the opportunity to develop the skills, confidence and opportunities they need to achieve their full potential
- more adults will have the support they need to live their lives as healthily, successfully, independently and safely as possible, with good timely access to health and social care services
- everyone will be given the opportunity to voice their opinions and experiences to ensure that services meet their individual needs
- the best possible services will be provided within the resources we have, giving excellent value for the public.

B.149 There is a need for more GP provision in Bicester. New buildings should be located in sustainable locations on the edge or within the built up limits of settlements. New buildings in the Green Belt and open countryside will be resisted. Policy ESD 15 will apply.

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The Council will support the provision of health facilities in sustainable locations which contribute towards health and well-being including the replacement of the Bicester Community Hospital.