

FOI - Danebridge Medical Practice

Subject: Freedom of Information request (FOI # 1) Business Case and Practice Plan

1. In the FAQ sheet attached to your letter to households, you refer to patient responses being added to “the Business Case”. Please provide a copy of this Business Case, redacted with any personal information if applicable.

Danebridge Response – 10th February 2020

“The business case is not currently available, it will be available when it is made available to the CCG for the primary care committee, and I will forward a copy when the business case is submitted.”

2. Please provide a copy of your Practice Plan detailing your proposal to close Sandiway Surgery and explaining how you will re-allocate your resources, manpower, services and appointment availability across the 2 sites, in order to deliver on your GP contract, redacted with any personal information if applicable.

Danebridge Response – 10th February 2020

“Practices are not required under the GMS contract to develop a practice plan.”

3. Please provide a copy of any Service Level Agreements or Key Performance Indicators attached to your GP Contract, including current levels of performance for each surgery.

Danebridge Response – 10th February 2020

“As the contract we hold is with NHS England and Vale Royal CCG is based on the national standard GMS contract which is freely available from NHS England website <https://www.england.nhs.uk/nhs-standard-contract/19-20/> . With regards to detailing any SLAs I believe the content of these are commercially sensitive and therefore outside the remit of an FOI enquiry. The practice performance is publically available via the NHS digital website <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/data-tools-and-services/data-services/general-practice-data-hub> we are unable to report at surgery level.”

Subject: Freedom of Information request (FOI # 2) Decision Making Process

In the letter to households FAQ # 15, you refer to a report being produced for Vale Royal CCG.

1. What is the decision-making process following your request to close Sandiway Surgery?

Danebridge Response – 10th February 2020

“The guidance on the process for closing a branch surgery is contained within the following document Primary Medical Care Policy and Guidance Manual (PGM) V2 contract pages 249 - 256 which is freely available via the NHS England website via the link

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/primary-medical-care-policy-and-guidance-manual-pgm/>

”

2. Are any other decision-making bodies involved?

Danebridge Response – 10th February 2020

“The CCG as part of the process are required to take a paper to overview and scrutiny committee to share the consultation process that we have undergone, for this committee of the council to either approve that the consultation has been sufficient or to request the practice to extend its consultation period.”

3. What criteria are considered by each decision-making body at each stage of the process?

Danebridge Response – 10th February 2020

“You should address this question to the CCG and the council.”

4. On the Vale Royal CCG website, it states that Dr McGregor-Smith is a member of the Vale Royal CCG Governing Body. Will she recuse herself from the decision-making process, given that she is also Executive Partner at Danebridge Medical Practice?

Danebridge Response – 10th February 2020

“Whilst Dr McGregor –Smith will sit on the Primary Care committee going forward, Dr McGregor – Smith would be required to state a conflict of interest for this item on the agenda and therefore would not be present or vote on this item.”

5. What is the expected timescale for each stage of the decision-making process?

Danebridge Response – 10th February 2020

“As we are in a period of Purdah, the next meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny committee has been cancelled and dates have not yet been confirmed. The Primary Care Committee meeting dates have not yet been confirmed.”

6. What is the appeals process in case of any decision made?

Danebridge Response – 10th February 2020

“I am unaware of the appeals process, again you may wish to ask the CCG.”

Subject: Freedom of Information request (FOI # 3) "Investment needed"

In FAQ no. 1, you state "it would require a very large investment to bring the premises up to standard, which is simply not available".

1. On what basis is this statement made? Please list each improvement required as a result of the Care Quality Commission Inspection report dated June 2019, including for each item:
 - a. specifications e.g. building dimensions, product requirements, plans and drawings.
 - b. quotations or estimates received
2. Please list the funding sources you have explored, and why each one is not available?
3. Please confirm what steps you have taken to investigate selling the Sandiway Surgery estate to a third party and then leasing it back. This would free up capital enabling improvements to be made to the building structure and facilities.
4. Please confirm what priorities and timings for each improvement have been given by the CQC in their report

Danebridge Response – 10th February 2020

"I am not aware of any applications for improvement of these premises. I have sought a quote for the building of a new premise to serve 3,500 patients (number of patients on the practice list who reside in the Sandiway & Cuddington area). The cost to build a new facility has been quoted as £1.16 million pounds, and this cost is excluding the purchase of any land. The advice from NHS property services is that they do not build practices of this size as they are not financially viable."

5. Please confirm whether any of the investment need is in relation to any current statutory regulations that are not being met

Danebridge Response – 10th February 2020

"All statutory obligations are met. That said they may not meet current codes of practice or specification requirements."

Subject: Freedom of Information request (FOI # 4) “Various (or alternative) solutions”

In your letter to households, you state that in the past 12 months you “have tried various solutions to keep the surgery open.”

1. List each solution considered, give details of any actions taken to explore each potential solution and reasons why you decided not to pursue each solution
2. Are there any other solutions that you have not pursued that would enable the surgery to remain open, and if so, why not? Please include as a minimum:
 - a. An approach to Weaverham Medical Practice to ask whether they would take over Sandiway branch surgery
 - b. An approach to Winsford Medical Practice to ask whether they would take over Sandiway branch surgery
 - c. An approach to General Practitioners wishing to set up their own Partnership to see if they would take over Sandiway surgery

Danebridge Response – 10th February 2020

“Thank you for your ideas that the practice will investigate your suggestions. These questions do not fall into a category of freely available information and therefore would take longer than 18 hours to gather this information; therefore the practice is not required to share this information with you, under the principles of freedom of information act.”

Subject: Freedom of Information request (FOI # 5) Household Survey

A. Survey Distribution

1. Was a survey posted to all households registered with Danebridge Medical Practice, or to a subsegment of the households on the Danebridge Medical Practice patient list?

Danebridge Response – 10th February 2020

“The survey was posted to the households of all patients registered at Danebridge Medical Practice”

2. If surveys were sent to a subsegment, what criteria did you use to select those who would be sent a postal survey? We are aware of households within Cuddington & Sandiway that use Danebridge Medical Practice yet did not receive a survey.

Danebridge Response – 10th February 2020

“Not applicable see response to Q1 above”

3. How many surveys were posted, and on what date(s)?

Danebridge Response – 10th February 2020

“10,225 surveys were posted on the 18 & 19th December 2019”

4. Did all Care Home residents receive a letter, or was one letter sent per Care Home?

Danebridge Response – 10th February 2020

“All registered addresses were issued with a copy of the questionnaire via Royal Mail.”

B. Survey Responses

1. As each household only received one survey, will you multiply the responses at all? Yes or No?

Danebridge Response – 10th February 2020

“No”

- a. If no, why have you made this decision?

Danebridge Response – 10th February 2020

“The questionnaire was issued to every household based on cost. The survey is based on a household response rather than individual patients.”

- b. If yes, on what basis, is it:
 - i. The number of registered patients living in that household, or
 - ii. The number of people entered in Q2 of the survey, or

- iii. Another method – please describe?
- c. If yes, how can you ensure the survey is accurate when the answers to subsequent Questions 3 through to 6 could vary considerably between different household members?

Danebridge Response – 10th February 2020

“b&c) Not applicable see response to Q1 above.”

2. How will the survey responses be weighted? Will responses from households within Cuddington & Sandiway be given a greater weighting than respondents within the wider Danebridge Practice Area? How will that weighting be attributed.

Danebridge Response – 10th February 2020

“The surveys are not being weighted”

3. If no weighting is to be applied, what is your reason for this decision, given that the greatest impact of the proposal to request closure of Sandiway surgery will be upon those households living within walking distance of that surgery.

Danebridge Response – 10th February 2020

“We are extracting from the responses received those that are from the CW8 2 postcode.”

C – Survey Analysis

Please provide an electronic anonymised copy of the survey response that you will use in your business case in either Word or Excel format.

Danebridge Response – 10th February 2020

“I am presently unable to provide a copy of the survey results as these will be published at our planned public meeting and therefore will be in the public domain thereafter. I would be more than happy to forward you a copy of this thereafter. “

Subject: Freedom of Information request (FOI # 6) Profile of Patients on the Danebridge Medical Practice list

1. Please complete the table below regarding the age profile of patients on the complete Danebridge patient list.

	Under 16	16-24	25-49	50-69	70 and over
# patients					

2. Please complete the table below regarding the number of those patients above who are within the Cuddington & Sandiway area.

	Under 16	16-24	25-49	50-69	70 and over
# patients					

3. Please complete the table below with the number of those patients in Cuddington & Sandiway area who are under "Meds monitoring".

	Under 16	16-24	25-49	50-69	70 and over
# patients					

Danebridge Response – 10th February 2020

Q6 profile of patients on the Danebridge medical practice list					
Sandiway and Cuddington Population					
under 16	16-24	25-49	50-69	70 and over	Total
716	255	1062	989	725	3747
Kingsmead Population					
Under 16	16-24	25-49	50-69	70 and over	Total
615	342	913	893	268	3031
Danebridge Population					
Under 16	16-24	25-49	50-69	70 and over	Total
3065	1427	5580	4972	3102	18146
OVERALL TOTAL Population					
Under 16	16-24	25-49	50-69	70 and over	Total
4396	2024	7555	6854	4095	24924
Sandiway and Cuddington patients needing meds monitoring					
Under 16	16-24	25-49	50-69	70 and over	Total
2	4	69	136	95	306

Subject: Freedom of Information request (FOI # 7) People who cannot drive

The existing public transport services to/from Cuddington & Sandiway are infrequent and the public bus and train facilities at all locations are not within reasonable walking distance of either Danebridge or Kingsmead surgeries for those with mobility issues and/or ill health.

Do you know how the total number of patients within Cuddington & Sandiway that would rely on public transport to access GP services at either Kingsmead or Danebridge?

What solutions will you put in place for people needing to use public transport to access the alternative surgery locations?

Danebridge Response – 10th February 2020

“We are commissioned to deliver medical services to our practice population, under the contract we are obliged to deliver services to all patients on our list.

It is not the responsibility of general medical practice to provide transport from a patient’s home to the surgery, this is the responsibility of the patient.”

Subject: Freedom of Information request (FOI # 8) Discussions with PCC or CCG (submitted after the above)

With regards to the proposed closure of Sandiway Surgery, I searched NHS England's policy on this (link below)

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/med-branch-closure-pms-july14.pdf>

Branch closures for primary - NHS England

PCC on behalf of David Geddes, Head of Primary Care Commissioning, 4W56, Quarry House, LEEDS . E-mail: england.primarycareops@nhs.net . Document Status
www.england.nhs.uk

In relation to Point 3 on page 10 I want the answers to 2 questions:

1. "What discussions have Danebridge Medical Practice had with the Primary Care Committee or the Clinical Commissioning Group Governing Body about their proposal to close the branch surgery?"
2. "What was the "appropriate and proportionate consultation requirement" that was agreed upon.

No Danebridge Response – as at 17th February 2020 (not yet due)

Subject: Freedom of Information request (FOI # 9) # hours GPs appointments at Sandiway (submitted after the above)

Please provide the average number of hours of GP appointments available (per week) at Sandiway surgery over the past 5 years

e.g. # hours per week for appointments at Sandiway

2015 x hours of appointments per week
2016 " "
2017 " "
2018 " "
2019 " "

Please provide the average number of hours of Nurse appointments available (per week) at Sandiway surgery over the past 5 years

e.g. # hours per week for Nurse appointments at Sandiway

2015 x hours of appointments per week
2016 " "
2017 " "
2018 " "
2019 " "

And confirm at what date the Nurse availability at Sandiway was stopped.

Danebridge Response – 10th February 2020

Please provide the average number of hours of GP appointments available (per week) at Sandiway surgery over the past 5 years

2015 110
2016 122
2017 135
2018 130
2019 105

Please provide the average number of hours of Nurse Appointments available (per week) at Sandiway surgery over the past 5 years

2015 24
2016 13
2017 12
2018 13
2019 10

ENDS