

**Sent:** 21 March 2016 17:59  
**To:** Leani Haim  
**Subject:** RE: B+ Pre-Submission Neighbourhood Plan

Dear Leani,

I have provided feedback on numerous occasions and will repeat the headline messages:

- Building of new homes will increase the pressure on local medical services (which are already at breaking point).
- The current GP Practises have no spare capacity to increase demand.
- The existing two surgeries have neither the space, funding or even the GPs available to increase services (there is a national shortage of GPs).
- It is unlikely (and certainly not cost effective) for a third surgery to be established in the town. Practices are being encouraged to federate and merge into bigger organisations (although the benefits of this strategy has yet to be proven and this does not necessarily reduce costs and reduced efficiency!).
- Recently some estates strategy planning is taking place within the NHS. This is required just to manage the current workload, before even thinking about dealing with population increases.
- There will possibly be potential to build a larger medical facility in the future (funded by the NHS?), but it is very early days and there is not detail as o where this should be, what services will be included where and when this can be delivered.
- Dorset CCG is looking a site strategy as part of Phase 2 of the Clinical Services Review. As this progresses there may be clarity regarding how services will be delivered in the future and the associated premises needs.

My recommendations in view of the above would be to continue to keep a ring fenced piece of land aside in the plans for a new medical facility. My personal view is that the preferred site for a new medical centre (which would accommodate both GPs and other health professional in integrated teams) would be where the Whitecliff Practice and Blandford Clinic currently are. Re-developing this site will provide a facility that is more accessible for patients than one based on the outskirts of town. The out of town site may however be suitable for the provision of other health / care related services – so should be kept in the plan.

Kind Regards,

Carol Tilley

Non-Clinical Partner / Practice Manager  
Whitecliff Group Practice,  
Tel 01258 486415  
[carol.tilley@gp-J81019.nhs.uk](mailto:carol.tilley@gp-J81019.nhs.uk)

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