

PROGRESS REPORT – ADDENDUM

2 AUGUST 2021 – PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

In relation to the submission of a travel plan at Stepping Hill Hospital imposed under condition 2 of DC/062885:-

Response:-

The Council has received a copy of a draft 2021 Travel Plan for Stepping Hill Hospital. Although it has not yet been reviewed in detail, an initial review of the document has ascertained that staff travel surveys carried out in December 2020 show that 8.7% more staff travelled by car than at the time of the previous travel survey. As such, the objective of reducing single occupancy car travel by staff was not met. No surveys of patient travel or on site car parking were carried out. It should be noted, however, that, as the travel plan was produced during the COVID-19 Pandemic, the hospital was not operating in its usual manner. For example, parking charges were not being applied, hospital visiting was not permitted in the usual manner and clinics and other hospital services were not operating in the usual manner. As such, direct comparisons would not be valid. The Travel Plan does, however, highlight that more measures need to be implemented to encourage car sharing and sustainable means of transportation, which, the Council would agree with. It is suggested that, as services return to normal the Hospital Trust develops a detailed strategy to turn around the recent trend of increased staff car travel to the site and implements additional measures to allow and encourage all staff, visitors and patients who are able to, to travel by sustainable modes of transport or car share. Changes in the way the hospital operates post-pandemic (e.g. home working by admin staff, on-line consultations etc.), however, may also lead to reductions in car travel and car parking demand at the site.