

## **Decision under Delegated Powers**

**DD number: 022**

### **Officer Requesting Decision**

Developer Contributions Monitoring Officer

### **Officer Making the Decision**

Head of Planning and Growth

### **Recommendation**

That the sum of £9,440.20 of section 106 monies that has been received as a contribution “to allow for improvements to medical practice in the area to cater for additional patients” to be paid to Leicestershire and Rutland to enable the practice to purchase a patient screen and booking in system, stand alone Health Monitor and four blood pressure monitors for home use.

### **Reason**

The release of this funding is in accordance with the relevant clauses in the section 106 agreement attached to planning permission P/14/1687/2 which states the contribution is to be used “to allow for improvements to medical practices in the area to cater for additional patients”

### **Authority for Decision**

Authority to pay over Section 106 monies in respect of non-housing items received by the Borough Council as the responsible authority, but which will not result in expenditure by the Council and where the Head of Service has been determined to be the relevant Head of Service by the Head of Finance and Property Services (item 8 of the delegations to Heads of Service in section 8.3 of the Constitution).

(For the Head of Service to approve the release of funds they must be satisfied that the works to be carried out fulfil the requirements set out in the S106 agreement and have written confirmation from the relevant body that the monies will be used for their intended purpose).

### **Decision and Date**



31 January 2025

### **Background**

Planning permission was granted for up to 270 dwellings at land off Hathern Road, Shepshed (P/14/1687/2) a section 106 agreement was established on 7th November 2014 requiring a Healthcare Contribution £78,835.68 plus

indexation to be paid to Charnwood Borough Council. Accordingly, £101,968.92 has been received by Charnwood Borough Council, the funds were allocated based on patient list size: £86,716.46 to Forest House Surgery and £16,252.46 to Field Street Medical Practice, to support improvements in response to increased patient demand.

In the assessment of the proposal P/14/1687/2 (land off Hathern Road, Shepshed) the officers report stated to “manage an increased population within the existing premises. There would be a requirement to provide additional surgery facilities.”

Field Street Medical Practice, Shepshed has requested £9,440.20 to purchase necessary and essential equipment to ensure and address the significant increase in patient registrations resulting from the development. The equipment will enhance operational efficiency, improve patient care, and provide additional capacity to accommodate the expanding patient demand.

The practice intends to purchase a HISpas – Patient Arrival System; a user-friendly self-check-in device that allows patients to quickly and effectively check in for appointments. The system will reduce queues at the reception, save staff valuable time, and improves patient flow. By streamlining check-ins, reception staff will have more time to manage incoming calls and patient enquiries. Due to the increase in patient registrations from the housing growth the practice has seen a rise in call volumes, the system will enhance efficiency and enable quicker response times.

The practice also intends to purchase a contactless health monitoring machine. This standalone device is designed for public use in the surgery and can measure height, weight and blood pressure. The results integrate seamlessly into the patient’s records. By allowing patients to conduct basic health checks independently, the monitor reduces the time spent with GPs and nurses freeing up clinical capacity and improving efficiency. The purchase of the monitor will increase GP and nursing capacity for other duties and increase appointment availability to the growing patient list.

Subsequently, the practice requires additional manual blood pressure machines, to allow patients to take home and complete weekly blood pressure readings reducing the need to book physical appointments with a clinician, again leaving GPs and nursing staff more time to complete physical appointments.

Over the past six months, the GP practice has been utilising two blood pressure monitors daily for patient consultations. These monitors have been in consistent use, with each being employed every day to assess the blood pressure of patients as part of routine medical assessments. Given the high volume of daily patient visits, the two devices have been in constant operation, ensuring that all individuals receive timely and accurate health assessments.

However, over the last five years, the patient list has grown by 18.5% (453 new patients), the increase in the patient population has placed additional

demand on the available equipment, particularly the blood pressure monitors. With the two current monitors, the practice has been able to manage daily usage and employing a waiting list in some cases, but as patient numbers continue to rise, the strain on these resources has been evident.

To maintain high standards of care and ensure that all patients can be seen promptly, the practice is requesting to purchase four additional blood pressure monitors. The investment would ensure that there is enough devices available to accommodate the increased patient list, reduce waiting times, and improve overall efficiency. With six monitors in total, the practice will be better equipped to meet the growing demand and continue providing the required healthcare services.

The purchase of four additional blood pressure monitors will help the practice maintain its commitment to patient care, streamline workflow, and mitigate any challenges posed by the increased patient volume over the past five years since the contribution was paid in 2019 and the associated patient increase created by the development.

The breakdown below quantifies the amount of usage converted into clinical time saved for the two blood pressure monitors and forecasted for the availability of six:

New Assumption:

1. **1 patient uses 1 piece of equipment**
2. **1 patient** needs 2 x 15 minutes appointments per day (so 30 minutes of use per day).

The equipment is used 7 days a week for 50 weeks.

The equipment was used 350 times over 50 weeks. This resulted in 10,500 minutes or 175 hours of saved appointment time, multiplied by two, shows that the two machines have been used 700 times during a 50-week year, in turn this results in 350 hours saved in clinician time.

Scenario	Number of Patients	Number of Pieces of Equipment	Time Saved per Patient per Day (minutes)	Total Time Saved per Day (minutes)	Total Time Saved per Year (minutes)	Total Time Saved per Year (hours)
1 Patient, 1 Piece of Equipment (50 weeks)	1	1	30	30	10,500	175
6 Patients, 6 Pieces of Equipment (50 weeks)	6	6	30	180	63,000	1,050

**Breakdown of Calculations:**

**1 Patient, 1 Piece of Equipment (50 weeks):**

- **Time saved per patient per day:** 2 x 15-minute appointments = 30 minutes.

- **Total time saved per day for 1 patient:** 30 minutes.
- **Total time saved per year for 1 patient:** 30 minutes/day × 350 days = 10,500 minutes.
- Total time saved per year for 1 patient (in hours): 10,500 minutes ÷ 60 = 175 hours.

#### 4 Patients, 4 Pieces of Equipment (50 weeks):

- **Time saved per patient per day:** 2 x 15-minute appointments = 30 minutes.
- **Total time saved per day for 4 patients:** 4 patients × 30 minutes = 120 minutes.
- **Total time saved per year for 4 patients:** 120 minutes/day × 350 days = 42,000 minutes.
- **Total time saved per year for 4 patients (in hours):** 42,000 minutes ÷ 60 = 700 hours.

#### Breakdown of cost

Quantity	Description	Cost	Total
1	M9-PGT Health Monitor	£7,573.20	£7,573.20
4	Omron M3 Comfort Upper Art Blood Pressure Monitor	£48.00	£192.00
1	HISpas- Patient check in screen	£1,675.00	£1,675.00
		<b>Total</b>	<b>£9,440.20</b>

#### Financial Implications

UM 27/1/25

The money has been received and there are no financial implications for Charnwood Borough Council, to be coded to X513 S2056 DW368.

30/01/2025 Neil Whittall – The Head of Finance gives his approval for the Head of Planning & Growth to approve this decision as required within the constitution:

*To pay over Section 106 monies in respect of non-housing items received by the Borough Council as the responsible authority, but which will not result in expenditure by the Council and where the Head of Service has been determined to be the relevant Head of Service by the Head of Finance*

#### Risk Management

Risk Identified	Likelihood	Impact	Overall Risk	Risk Management Actions Planned
			Very Low (1 - 2)	

**Key Decision**

No

**Background Papers**

All contained on planning files P/14/1687/2