

RBCCC

Notes from public meeting held on Tuesday 25th March 2025 within Cupar Baptist Church at 7.30pm

Purpose

Purpose of the meeting was to enable the Health & Social Partnership to outline the options being considered for the Minor Injuries Unit, currently located within the Adamson Hospital.

A consultation exercise was live for which those present were encouraged to respond if not already done so.

Opening Remarks

Community Council Chair welcomed those present to the meeting and thanked them for their interest and attendance.

Members of the Fife Health and Social Care Partnership (Participation and Engagement Team) along with staff from the Adamson were present – 7 persons in total.

80+ members of the public were present, 7 Community Councillors, Fife Councillor John Caffrey (also present Councillor Louise Kennedy-Dalby for the Balumullo Ward).

Alastair Crockett asked that questions be framed as questions and not “speeches” and that answers be directed to the specific questions and stay on point. In that way the hope would be for a constructive evening.

(NHS/FHCP)Options

NHS outlined the issues regarding the future of the MIU, stating that staffing numbers, up-take and the need to replace equipment (radiology) were contributing factors. The overarching strategy was to provide the right care, at the right time at the right place!

- Option 1 – Status quo was felt not to meet future requirements
- Option 2 – Two units over both sites (Cupar/St Andrews) fails to meet the staffing requirements
- Option 3 - single unit, with adequate staff pooled, increased efficiency and effectiveness.

(Option 3 was the preferred option with no decision taken as to the location at this time).

Q&A/Feedback Comment

There is a widespread perception that the outcome has been predetermined, and that the consultation is a paper/tick box exercise – recognising that “conveniently” the outcome decision is taken elsewhere.

Transportation and parking is an issue should option 3 at St Andrews be approved – public transport a real concern. No direct bus to the Hospital, no surety that the Ambulance patient transport would be able to cope with the demand – resulting in long delays!

The lack of radiology at Adamson would have a direct impact on services there. GP services and clinics would require arranging appointments elsewhere – St Andrews or Kirkcaldy.

Despite assurances, there is a real perception that the downgrading of Adamson site would continue ultimately risking access to local services. From this point on Adamson would be unable to demonstrate efficiency and effectiveness as “resources” concentrated at St Andrews. (Why has the radiology been left to such a point that the equipment is obsolete with no clear plan for replacement?)

The MIU is a key health resource if this is removed from Cupar, Adamson NHS/IJB are clearly at risk of failing the very patients and citizens they claim to serve.

The wider public of Cupar, those who work to support local services (particularly the elderly) are clear that the removal of the MIU at Adamson is a shortsighted and prejudices health services in Cupar long term.

(Approved at CCC meeting 29th April 2025)