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ABERDEEN DONSIDE

The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Angela Scott
Chief Executive
Aberdeen City Council
Town House
Broad Street
Aberdeen
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Our Ref: MM2386

21 March 2019

Dear Angela

Re: Sites for new GP surgeries for Bucksburn, Stonewood, Dyce

My constituent, Linda Hake, [REDACTED] has asked me to forward her suggestions for the location of healthcare facilities that are needed to replace existing practices in Bucksburn, Dyce and Stonewood, and I ask that you give due regard to her submissions as part of the review of the Local Development Plan.

As ever, any additional information or advice you can provide would be welcome. I look forward to your response, the contents of which I will share with my constituent.

[REDACTED]
Mark McDonald MSP

GP surgery ideas for the Bucksburn, Stonewood, Dyce area for Aberdeen

My suggestion is that the new health hub should be built on the land where Stonewood Primary school was or the old academy field. May be able to use old buildings. A very good set of transport connections to reach it/them, city buses and country buses. There is a road beside the old Stonewood Primary leading towards the airport that is gated, this could be opened as a bus gate allowing connections with TECA. And the new housing which is planned for the area, as well as the airport park and ride and Dyce train station. A chemist, café, travel centre could be included in the development along with anything else that you feel the area would benefit from.

Dyce – Rebuild or remodel the existing buildings around the central park in Dyce. This could be extensions on to the primary, secondary, GP surgery. The GP surgery could be turned to face the bus terminus or the road at the back of Asda could continue to meet the street the surgery is already on. Paths and pavements landscaped etc. Important to keep surgery and chemist together. Plenty of scope for ideas of what else is required to become a shared community, medical hub, i.e. Gym. Most people in Dyce can get to the surgery on foot. Swimming pools already in the area can be reopened.

Bucksburn – Possibly keep Gilbert Road/ Inverurie road building for offices, patient records etc. which would mean a smaller Surgery area required for the public. I think this could fit into the area at the top of the hill better.

One idea I have is to move the playgroup on the land behind the shops, landscape it as promised and have a small play park round it. The play group could have a roof garden. The playgroup would be closer to the Primary School, shops and also near the new doctors surgery I am about to suggest.

Remodel the upper floor of the Beacon, in a way that it can be best used for the community. The new remodelling could allow a second entrance to the whole building during the day. People parking in the Beacon car park can get to the surgery area using the lower door and vice versa. It would allow relatively flat walking for people living at the top and sides of the hill. In my wish list I would also get rid of the lethal flight of stairs leading down to the carpark. During a bus strike it may also be possible to walk up to the Swimming pool area and enter from the bottom or patients could be rezoned to Stonewood. You could also decide use another location and mobile surgeries could be parked somewhere at the top of the hill during a bus strike. Possible community café at the Sclattie shops or beside new playgroup area.

The bus routes could be changed a little. There are two 17s in the area already. One possible idea would be to join them as a loop like they do on the 1 and 2. The route could follow as it is now up Kepplehills, round Brimmond School and have a terminus

at Stonewood or Dyce. The more direct route to the Fourmile could instead swing past Lidl, then Stoneywood, past the Fourmile and terminate in front of the Sclattie shops. The car park area at the front of the shops could be landscaped so it is less steep etc and used for disabled parking. General public can park round the back if there is enough room. Gentle well gritted landscaping round the area would allow locals to get to the doctors, then chemist and connect to a bus. More locals will manage to walk home, if they prefer. Road crossings, re-routing of car traffic, a bus gate at the shops to make it a pedestrian safe area.

I am aware that all this could be way to expensive but I thought I would let you know my process of thinking, having been a mother of small children and I am now approaching the latter part of my life. Young parents will find it easier to fit a GP appointment round picking the wee ones up from school, there is already a swimming pool and gym which physios could use, with office or private consultation room nearby. The whole thing could be protected by a high fence during the night. All of these buildings could also be used by the Woodside and Tillydrone communities and vice versa. To allow a fuller timetable of activities across the whole area. If a community kitchen was included in any of these ideas then they all have food shops very nearby.

A separate travel hub organised for the land at the Haudagain could also be considered or preferred. Ideally I think a country bus from Kingswells to Bridge of Don or further, would be useful passing by the Sclattie area, then through or Stoneywood or Haudagain. This country bus could rescue locals stuck on top of hills. With a secure travel hub somewhere in the area it would allow far more people to get to the hospital quicker. Perhaps the chemist on Inverurie Road could move to Stoneywood.

I do not think there is any advantage in having new surgeries built on the Cordyce or Bucksburn primary land.