

1. How much money has been allocated to a healthcare facility for Kingsbrook residents and how exactly is this going to be spent?

Poplar Grove are currently working with our Landlord to produce a Business Case to explore a principle view from the Council to understand if an extension will be granted planning.

- This work includes

- The pre application fee for a planning application
 - A Projected build cost for start 2023/24 based on the preferred 2 storey option to ensure the costs fall into the total s106 budget of £1.3m.
 - Information on how any loss of parking will be minimised and if extra parking needs to be created for the growth.
 - Information on health space planning for the population growth
- The Business case should be completed by the end March 2023 and submitted to the ICB, Local Planning Teams and the Parish Council for scrutiny.

****Poplar Grove has not received *any* further funding from the s106 agreement****

2. Was there any consultation with residents? If not, why?

ICB ANSWER: The public meeting tonight (26/1/23) following on from a previous meeting on 8th December 2022 with Kingsbrook parish council will gather local residents' views.

3. Can a representative for Kingsbrook be a part of future discussions?

Yes

4. What is the justification for putting money into Poplar Grove instead of building the facility on Kingsbrook?

ICB ANSWER –

- a) Buckinghamshire confirmed primary care estates strategy is to:
 - where possible expand existing buildings and services to meet population growth
 - not to set up a standalone primary care facility for a new population of less than 10,000 people
- b) Local practices not able to take on running an additional branch surgery, and the ICB does not anticipate being able to find a sustainable, good quality provider for a standalone surgery within available resources
- c) Bucks CCG advised Buckinghamshire Council (October 2021) that:
“the obligations for a permanent primary medical care provision within the S106 agreement relating to the Kingsbrook planning permission are not deliverable”
- d) Proposed solution is to expand provision at Poplar Grove Practice, with developer funding (s106) for an extension

5. How can something that was planned and promised to residents when purchasing their properties now be allowed to be taken away?

ICB ANSWER: – Buckinghamshire Council will have to consider and agree any changes to the existing Section 106 agreement.

6. Can the plan be changed again?

ICB ANSWER: This is a decision to be made by Buckinghamshire Council but practically once an s106 clause is enacted (i.e. money paid or a building built) it can't be changed.

7. How will the money be spent to improve the poor service experienced by current patients and future residents of Kingsbrook?

The s106 suggests, given the Size of the development, it was envisaged that a maximum of 3 doctors/clinicians would be required and as such whilst space was being provided for expansion, costs for fit out would include for 3 doctors

We are in discussions with our Landlord to explore the building of a 2 storey extension at the rear of our Doctor's car park.

The 2-storey extension will provide c.7-8 new rooms (at least 4 for clinical use) using the existing site, with re-configured car parking areas that avoids the need to acquire additional land

The larger surgery area will allow more staff to be employed, more patients to be seen and more community activity (including outreach and domiciliary support) to be accommodated. The project is expected to take about 2 years to be completed, including allowing for planning and development, so that the extension could be operational by 2025

8. What guarantees are there that the money will not be spent on anything else?

ICB ANSWER: Buckinghamshire Council processes will ensure proper use of s106 monies. Councils ensure that funds are only paid out for projects meeting the requirements of the s106 agreement.

9. When will patients see an improvement? What are the timelines?

We are desperately trying to recruit more team members to improve call answering times. Despite huge efforts, this is a role all surgeries are struggling to fill. We know we need more people to answer calls! Poplar Grove is a great place to work and ideal for those living in Kingsbrook who want to work local.

We are currently 150 hours short of Reception Team Members per week- this is 4 Full time staff members! We had 8 interviews confirmed last week and only 2 candidates turned up...!

10. What are the plans for the surrounding new and existing developments and areas around Kingsbrook? Where have they been taken into consideration?

ICB ANSWER: – The ICB are in discussion with Council about other major developments around Aylesbury. Developments like Aston Reach, Woodlands and Hampden Fields do not fall into the Poplar Grove catchment.

11. Does Kingsbrook and neighbouring developments not meet the criteria of 10,000 population required to open a new practice?

ICB ANSWER: – Kingsbrook itself is not projected to come near the 10,000 patient minimum for considering new facilities. Other major Aylesbury developments are being addressed separately and will link to closer GP practices that have these developments in their contracted boundary.

12. How many patients does Poplar Grove plan to have compared to what it currently has?

PGP has 22400 Registered Patients. 2440 of those are from Kingsbrook. We estimate another 3300 residents will need to have healthcare access by the end Dec 2027

13. What is the Doctor to patient ratio?

8 x GP Partners

10 x Salaried GPs

1 x Trainee GP

This equates to 11.4 FTE GPs holding an average list of 2000 each

The average FTE GP list size in Bucks, Oxon & Berkshire West over 2 years has been 2,919 (the national average in 2014 was 1,600

A schedule of each GPs working week can be found on our website:

<https://www.poplar-grove.co.uk/meet-the-team/doctors/>

14. How many appointments are available per day? How/ will this change?

Based on a widely accepted formula of 72 appointments per 1,000 patients each week and an average list size of 1,600 patients (per GP), the report, Safe Working in General Practice, proposes that GPs should be offering 115 appointments a week – an average of 23 a day over five days.

Poplar Grove GPs are averaging 136 appointments a week which is at least 20% more than the recommended safe clinical limit.

Patient Size		Oct-22		Nov-22		Dec-22	
		Number of Appointments	Appointments per 1000 patients	Number of Appointments	Appointments per 1000 patients	Number of Appointments	Appointments per 1000 patients
22284	Poplar Grove	11782	530.3	10428	468	8166	365.5
15170	Mandeville	6154	405.5	6570	433	5168	340.3
5827	Oakfield	2616	452.3	3358	576	2276	388.9
22631	Unity Health Princes Risborough/Thame	9534	421.3	10760	475.5	8268	364.5

In relation to the number of appointments offered per 1000 patients, Poplar Grove is maintaining a ratio similar or better than the practices in our primary care network. We have also compared our figures with Unity Health who have a similar patient list size.

15. Has COVID affected the practice? What are the recovery plans?

- The Practice has recovered from the aftermath of the Pandemic and is fully operational. We are seeing a huge increase in consultations for long term sickness since Covid-19. This is on top of the patients who stayed away during the pandemic and are now presenting with multiple and complex concerns. Patients are waiting longer for routine operations which often means they need more GP support to manage their conditions while they wait for treatment.

The GP workforce has fallen 11% in two years (as measured by the number of GP sessions provided by practices). We need the public and politicians to understand the pressures which the whole of our health service is under, with huge strain on exhausted staff. We need the government to offer support to help boost morale and retention. A typical day for a GP starts at 8am and finishes at 8pm! GP numbers are decreasing and the population is increasing

16. How does the problems faced by Poplar Grove compare to other practices in Aylesbury?

Aylesbury GPs have a close working relationship and regularly meet to discuss local challenges. Each surgery is experiencing challenging and growing strain with declining GP numbers, a significant rise in demand, a struggle to recruit and retain staff and a huge increase in new registrations from local housing developments.

Please see link below to a joint statement issued by all the Aylesbury GP Surgeries in December 2022

<https://www.poplar-grove.co.uk/patient-information/practice-statements/a-joint-statement-from-the-aylesbury-gp-surgeries/>

ICB confirms that the issues faced by Poplar Grove are similar to those faced by many other practices due to nation-wide pressures.