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University Health Board

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Health Board feedback on application to build on land north and south of Rossett Road

Dear Matthew,

Thanks you for your email and we apologise for the delay in responding. We very much welcome the opportunity to comment on this application.

Alyn Family Doctors (AFD) has been a GP partnership and training practice for well over 30 years. The practice is based in the villages of Rossett, Llay and Gresford, to the north of Wrexham in North Wales. There are 10 partners (7.5 whole time equivalent), serving a population of approximately 13,000 patients from three surgeries.

The practice, like many other practices in the UK, has been experiencing difficulties in ensuring the stability of their service, largely due to staffing shortages and difficulties in recruitment. Branch surgeries at Rossett and Llay could potentially be affected by these difficulties,. Additional pressure on the Rossett branch will be further compounded by a larger population attributable to the proposed housing growth in this area.

AFD are keen to develop their premises with plans in early stages for a health centre in Llay to incorporate services for the three areas

The surgery in Rossett is a 19th century semi-detached cottage, owned by the practice. The other two surgeries are based in community health centres built in the mid 1970s. The health centres are owned by Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board , which also commissions the practice to provide General Medical Services.

The practice list size is increasing and the current accommodation is inadequate for the needs of a modern General Practice of 13,000 patients. The partnership has initiated and supported redevelopments at all three surgeries during the past 20 years and there is no further capacity to expand.

In summary, AFD is under pressure, especially in relation to their current physical infrastructure and staffing levels. Any additional patient demand will increase existing pressures, including housing developments contained within the Wrexham LDP. Whilst the health board may not have any specific objection to this development in principle we would wish to discuss capital contribution opportunities with planners and developers to ensure adequate health service infrastructure is in place in the future. This is consistent with our comments and input to the overall LDP consultation processes.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me

Yours sincerely

Chris Jones

Health Planning Manager

on behalf of Sally Baxter Interim Director of Strategy