

## Cheryl Atkinson

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**From:** Cheryl Atkinson  
**Sent:** 30 June 2015 08:47  
**To:** Dave Sykes; Helen Gregory  
**Subject:** FW: PLAN Selby

Please see email below from Tadcaster Medical Centre.

Kind regards  
Cheryl

## Cheryl Atkinson

PA to Directors & PLAN Selby Support Officer

ext: 42220

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**From:** Inglis Andrew (NHS VALE OF YORK CCG)  
**Sent:** 29 June 2015 23:59  
**To:** Cheryl Atkinson  
**Subject:** PLAN Selby

Dear Mrs Atkinson

Thank you for your letter, which was passed to me on my return from annual leave on 29th June 2015. I am responding now as this is the first chance I have had to read it in detail.

I am afraid that I am not going to be able to attend the Meeting on Wednesday evening, nor can I send a representative, so I am writing my response to the Tadcaster Fact Sheet now. This does mean that I have not had a chance to discuss its contents with my partners - our weekly partners meeting is on a Wednesday morning so I will share the information with them then, and will forward a copy of this email to them. The views expressed below are therefore my own, but I am confident that they are also the views of my partners at the Medical Centre.

### Deficits

I note the recommendation that the council "seek to proactively plan for new convenience provision in Tadcaster to address existing convenience difficulties". I am not clear what this means.

If it means improving access (such as convenient parking), particularly for the elderly, disabled, and parents with young children (as well as general access for residents and visitors), then it sounds a good idea. The recent improvements to the central car park have dramatically improved its appearance, safety and usability, although I assume there are now fewer spaces and it is often over-full, with people parking in undesignated spaces. If it means improving "convenience stores" then I don't see that there is a particular need, but don't have a strong view either way and have no specific knowledge to be able to comment further. If it means the more specific use of the word "convenience" in the sense of "Public Conveniences" then I can see that the loss of the loos in the central car park might pose problems, once again, for disabled visitors. I apologise if I have misunderstood the meaning of this, but I have tried to find more information on the Tadcaster Factsheet on the Selby Council website but have not been able to get it to open this evening.

A formal park and more play space would seem a good idea. I was instrumental about 15 years ago in planning and installing a significant amount of play equipment in Bilbrough, where I was living at the time. This was installed in an existing recreation area, but there were objections from some residents who lived immediately adjacent to the play area, because of the risks of increased noise from the children using the equipment. The other question is where

would such a formal park be located? We considered a skateboard park, but discounted the idea because it would clearly be very noisy.

## **Needs**

I note the council aims to "locate and support new housing development in Tadcaster". Clearly, an increasing population would have a direct impact on the Medical Centre and in particular on staffing levels. Recruitment of both General Practitioners and Practice Nurses is becoming increasingly difficult nationally, and we would certainly be grateful for as much notice as possible of any significant new housing developments, so that we can plan an appropriate strategy to ensure that we continue to offer the best service we can to all our patients.

I have already commented on the needs relating to improving the appearance and vitality of the town through the provision of park/play space. The big issue raised for me is the volumes and patterns of heavy goods vehicles in town. I may be missing something, but it seems to me that there is a relatively simple way to improve this dramatically, which is to modify the A64/A162 junction south of the town, so that vehicles can get on and off the A64 both eastbound and westbound. This would mean that any HGV accessing the Heineken site from the A64 would be able to do so without coming through the town. This would also make the (totally unsuitable) A659/A162 junction safer and would reduce traffic hazard and noise pollution for the residents of Leeds Road in particular.

## **Aspirations**

I would be very keen on schemes to improve the overall attractiveness of the town centre, which has many interesting buildings. Increased attractiveness of, and occupancy of, commercial buildings in the town centre will result in increased traffic and an increased need for parking spaces. It seems to me that it is very important to protect the uniqueness of the shopping experience provided by independent traders - as evidenced by the apparent success of similar communities such as Wetherby and Easingwold.

The other big concern repeatedly expressed by the partners at the Medical Centre is the difficulty in getting local support for patients (for example drop-in services for patients with mental health problems). Many of these services are available to patients in Selby and York, and it is often the case that our most vulnerable patients, who need this support the most, can't get to Selby or York to access the help they need. This is not necessarily about premises - the Tadcaster Health Clinic is underused and we have often tried to increase its usage by appropriate agencies. The problem is more to do with staffing and funding - when funds are tight, satellite services tend to be scaled down or withdrawn in order to concentrate resources in core central services. We are currently involved in piloting a scheme through Selby AVS, called "Social Prescribing" - where patients are offered an assessment by a member of the AVS team to establish what extra help and support might be of benefit to them in helping them to remain at home rather than being admitted to hospital or residential care.

## **Conclusions**

I hope that these views are helpful.

I note that the council "should actively look for site opportunities to accommodate a new food store in the region of 1000sq metres". I wonder where this has come from, what evidence there is that this is needed, and most importantly, where would it be located?

I note that the plans don't make any mention of any need for possible increased provision of residential/nursing home care but I assume that is because it is in the remit of the County Council and local NHS? If the council is keen to support increased housing provision, it needs to consider all aspects of infrastructure - including nursery provision, schools, shopping, employment, transport and provision for care of the elderly.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Andrew Inglis  
Tadcaster Medical Centre

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