1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to outline the background to the North Northamptonshire Health Needs Study report. The consultants Quod will present the findings of the study and respond to questions from the Joint Committee.

2. INFORMATION

2.1 In May 2016, Quod was appointed by the North Northamptonshire Joint Delivery Unit to conduct a Health Needs study for the area.

2.2 The study aims to help the local authorities understand the health needs of North Northamptonshire and provide recommendations and guidance on how to address them with particular focus on the Garden Communities (SUEs).

2.3 Planning has a significant role to play in the provision of healthcare facilities and services but it can be difficult to achieve the necessary partnership of health and planning. This is due in part to the differing timescales for development planning (up to twenty years ahead) compared to planning for healthcare, which occurs at a much shorter timescale (18 months to three years). This leads to difficulties in planning for large scale developments such as the Garden Communities.

2.4 This lack of integration has been acknowledged and the Northamptonshire Health and Wellbeing Board has established a “planning and health” working group that seeks to bridge that gap between planning authorities, health bodies and trusts and elements of the county council. That has begun work on measures to integrate differing systems and improve mutual understanding. This is to better inform the consideration of planning applications and S106 agreements, and generally to bring together local authorities public health teams, the NHS and CCGs to encourage partnership working and knowledge sharing. In turn, a short term project group has been set up to agree how to turn the S106 provision for health facilities within the East Kettering SUE into a concrete set of ideas which can be built out at the right point in the development’s lifetime. This project group is intended to act as a pilot for others in future.
2.5 A key message from the North Northamptonshire Health Study is the need to understand the relationship between service provision, planning and property development. Understanding where planning’s role can influence health outcomes and infrastructure delivery while appreciating it cannot control the delivery of service provision.

2.6 The report also highlights a number of recommendations on how the JPDU’s role can be most effective in the delivery of health provision across the North Northamptonshire area. It suggests that the JPDU role should focus on supporting local authorities and developers in engaging with stakeholders and working to improve dialogue between the public health and planning departments.

2.7 The JPDU’s most recent bid for Garden Communities Funding included a proposal for £30,000 towards a Healthy Places Co-ordinator to work with the local planning authorities and health stakeholders to secure an improved approach to infrastructure, planning and delivery. The post-holder (or consultant) would review planning applications, policies and Health Impact Assessments and liaise between the district and borough councils, NCC public health, the CCGs and NHS England to promote healthy places and to consider options for delivery of health services to new and existing communities.

2.8 The JPDU was awarded £50,000 from the Garden Communities Fund and the Steering Group has agreed that this should be used in part to fund the Healthy Places Co-ordinator post for a trial period. Contributions will be sought from other partners.

2.9 Another key recommendation is that health issues should contribute to core design principles for new developments, encouraging healthier lifestyles. This has been taken forward by the JPDU through the preparation of a Place Shaping Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), with extensive input from health stakeholders. The draft SPD is due to be considered by the Joint Planning Committee on the 30th January 2018 and will then be subject to consultation.

2.10 Further recommendations from the study can be seen in the Executive Summary of the report provided at Appendix 1. The full version of the report is available at: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/q2eadcxojxpgzbg/AABubJ5jLbJ2HVnoPUWRr0xc a?dl=0

2.11 Representatives from Quod will be attending the Joint Committee to present their report.
3. **RECOMMENDATION**

3.1 That the Joint Delivery Committee notes the content of the report and the accompanying presentation.

3.2 That the Joint Delivery Committee endorses the recommendations within the report and supports officers in progressing these.

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