



August 2024

Report of Faversham "Live Talk" - Wednesday 3 July 2024

The Faversham Society hosted a series of 4 'Live Talks' during the second quarter of 2024. *Faversham Healthy Futures* was invited to present their project at one of them. Despite the fact that it turned out to be on the eve of the general election, over 50 people attended.

The evening opened with a presentation of the achievements of the project to date, the results of the public survey undertaken in May 2023 and current health and care issues. The second half of the evening involved 6 facilitated discussion groups lasting about an hour. Our facilitator team were Claire Martin, Sarah Harvey, Graham Elvy, Rachel Stead, Jacqui Dabnor and Matthew Hatchwell. In turn, the facilitators reported back to the audience on their group's contributions under the two headings 'Comments and Concerns' and 'Suggestions and Advice'. There were many common themes which are summarised below.

Comments, concerns, suggestions, issues and advice...

- Improving access, quality and efficiency by decentralising and localising services and...
- Integrating and managing services locally
- Securing the right human and physical resources to do that
- Associated concern that the current local buildings/facilities not being utilised to best effect
- Rebalancing provision of care to include more home/social support/ health promotion/etc.
- Better (local) mental health and NHS dentistry services
- More emphasis needed on supporting young people –
- Tackling the immediate problem of obesity – especially in school-age children
- Concern that NHS not reassuring public about the impact of any new housing developments on services
- Concern too that planning process did not emphasise creating healthy environments – open spaces/cycling/walking/air quality/water treatment etc. Does the NHS have any influence?
- Particular concern about how S106 was to be used in planning health and care facilities

We will be discussing the results of this meeting with members of the Integrated Care Board, East Kent Health & Care Partnership and the Mid Kent Primary Care Network in September. Meetings have already taken place with the two medical practices.

We have applied for funding to take the project forward to the next stage and will know in October if we have been successful. The presentation shown at the meeting is on the *Faversham Healthy Futures* page of the Faversham Town Council web site. The address for this is shown below.

Thank you to you all for giving your time to join us at this event. We will keep you informed of developments.

Gill Wagstaff and Laurie McMahan
Joint Project Leads
Faversham Healthy Futures

<https://favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk/directory/faversham-healthy-futures/>