

EXECUTIVE

29th OCTOBER 2026

WEST CRAVEN COMMITTEE

26th OCTOBER 2026

MINUTE No. 102(b)

(b) Access to Health Services in West Craven

Members discussed several issues relating to the access of health services in West Craven.

At the request of this Committee in November 2025, the Council's Executive on 22nd January 2026 requested the provision of a proper health centre in West Craven and a meeting with Lancashire's Director of Public Health and a representative of the NHS Integrated Care Board, to improve access to local health services in the area.

West Craven residents were having to access routine health care clinics and screenings (e.g. wound dressings; podiatry; diabetic eye care; audiology; lung cancer screening; and mammography) at either Burnley or Colne. Last year, following this Committee's request, the Breast Cancer Screening Trailer had come to Victory Park, but this year it had reverted to Burnley. The new NHS facility at Newtown was not being utilised. Access to NHS dental services was also a concern.

It was not clear whether plans for Pendle Leisure Trust to use West Craven Sports Centre as a hub for health were progressing.

There was an update from Barnoldswick Town Council setting out discussions they had had with Jonathan Hinder MP who had assured the town council that he was in touch with the NHS about the opportunities for improving the services from the Newtown Clinic. The East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust were making arrangements for the Breast Cancer Screening Service to come back to Barnoldswick and a date had been set for the Well Bus for Cervical screening.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Executive be asked to pursue the issues with accessing health services in West Craven, working with the town council and the area committee, and that they follow up the resolution from their meeting on 22nd January 2026 to request a meeting with Lancashire's Director of Public Health, Dr Sakthi Karunanithi, and the Integrated Care Board to discuss these issues.

REASON

To provide accessible, local health services for residents of West Craven.