

Design Statement

Proposed Portacabin

Diss Health Centre

Mount Street

Diss

IP22 4WG

Proposal is for an additional portacabin in the area on the western side of the medical site, this is following the withdrawal of the previous application ref:2022/2337 and subsequent advice from the senior planning officer was to relocate the cabin in the position now proposed. This was suggested through email correspondence on the 18/04/2023 from Jemima Dean following forwarding of possible locations. The proposed position of the portacabin is to the side of the existing buildings where there is already an existing portacabin. The existing portacabin will be relocated and the new portacabin located in the position of the existing.

The need for a portacabin is because the existing facilities are too small and there is a requirement for additional space to improve patient services. Diss Health Centre is currently working to full capacity with all spaces being utilised. At present outreach nurses are having to work from home, which is not ideal, and additional clinical services are at present not being facilitated due to lack of clinical rooms. This is all to the disadvantage of the service to the people of Diss. The practice (Lawns) therefore, to meet their requirements and to meet the needs expected of them for the clinical services to the surgery and the patients, desperately need additional medical rooms directly and immediately.

Following full consideration by the practice they can see no other mechanism to meet their needs other than to install an additional portacabin and site it where there is an existing portacabin already on the site. This creates an access route that, can relate to both structures and is accessed via the corridor from the main building waiting room. This position can create a level access for all patients, including wheelchairs.

Existing car parking arrangements are maintained. The Health Centre sits adjacent to a town public car park, which allows direct access to the Health Centre site.

The layout has tried to minimise its impact as far as possible. This portacabin will be visually similar to the existing 'portacabin' facilities on the site.

The proposed portacabin and relocated existing portacabin will be on legs as the existing structures and will avoid any intrusive foundations effecting nearby trees.

The Health Centre see the proposal as the most practical solution to achieve the requirements and aspirations of the Health Authority directly and to facilitate the level of facilities required for the patients of Diss Health Centre.