

## **Motion on Notice from Councillor Martin – Special Council 20 April 2017**

“During recent weeks there has been great focus in the media on the provision of services by the NHS. Here in Cumbria there are places within the county where appointments with a doctor involve a considerable wait. In particular in Eden the wait can be longer than the national average and a very different experience to that found in many urban areas. This is in part due to the inability to attract GPs to serve in a rural area.

Therefore it is suggested that this Council ask our MP, Rory Stewart, to lobby the Secretary of State for Health to introduce a scheme of ‘rural weighting’ for GPs who accept positions in areas such as Cumbria. Similar to the accepted practice of ‘London weighting’, such a scheme would act to attract the needed physicians and in turn would facilitate the better provision of health services.

Furthermore, we hope that our action will encourage other rural authorities to support us in this and lobby their MP’s as well.

To this end I ask that Council support this action and that a letter be sent to our MP