

To:	Warden Hicks and Members of Grey County Council
Committee Date:	July 25, 2019
Subject / Report No:	CCR-CW-12-19
Title:	Health Care Funding Task Force
Prepared by:	Heather Morrison
Reviewed by:	Kim Wingrove
Lower Tier(s) Affected:	all
Status:	Recommendation adopted by Committee of the Whole as presented as per Resolution <i>CW164-19</i> ; Endorsed by County Council on August 8, 2019 as per Resolution <i>CC63-19</i> .

Recommendation

1. That Report CCR-CW-12-19 regarding the establishment of an ad hoc Health Care Funding Task Force be received; and
2. That the following members of Grey County Council be appointed to the Health Care Funding Task Force:
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
 - e. Warden Hicks

Executive Summary

At the May 23, 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting, a motion was passed requesting that an ad hoc Health Care Funding Task Force be established to develop a policy for health care spending related to requests received by Grey County Council from area

health care stakeholders. Draft Terms of Reference have been developed to assist in defining the role of the Task Force.

Background and Discussion

At the May 23, 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting, a motion was passed to establish an ad hoc Health Care Spending Task Force to develop a policy that would:

- Provide the rationale for the Grey County Health Care levy
- Outline the funding request process and eligibility requirements
- Recommend a formula to determine maximum annual reserve contributions.

Grey County has recently received requests from both the Collingwood General and Marine Hospital for a \$3 million pledge over 10 years towards its facility replacement project and \$400,000 over two years from Grey Bruce Health Services for assistance with a new magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) machine.

Currently, Grey County put ½ of 1% of the own purpose levy aside annually for health care initiatives for capital construction projects of hospitals. This direction came out of the Health Funding Roles and Responsibility Review Committee in 2005. The 2019 budget includes a transfer to reserve of \$277,300 for health care initiatives.

Grey County has had a history of funding health care initiatives to various facilities in the area as outlined in report [FR-CW-12-19](#). To date, Grey County has not established a policy on how to handle health care related funding requests that are received and as such previous requests have come forward to Council for its consideration on a case by case basis.

In order to evaluate the increasing requests from health care stakeholders for funding of various health care related capital projects, it would be prudent to have a policy in place. The policy should provide a framework on how health care sector funding requests are received, evaluated and funded as well as outline a strategy to assist Council when completing the annual budget process to determine a maximum annual reserve contribution for health care related requests.

In the development of the policy, key stakeholders in the health care sector should be consulted. They will be able to offer insight into specific parameters surrounding health care funding requirements and assist in Grey County meeting the needs of our community.

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) has completed a Compendium of Municipal Health Activities and Recommendations. It is included as a link to this report.

A review of the recommendations included in this document related to hospitals will be included on a future agenda for the Task Force. For the benefit of Council some of the recommendations from AMO related to hospitals include:

- Reform the funding formula to ensure the base funding provided to hospitals recognizes the diverse models for hospital operations including small, rural and multi-site hospitals
- Provide adequate capital and operational funding to hospitals to support the services that residents need in their communities
- Respect the importance of municipal plans and policies

Legal and Legislated Requirements

A draft Terms of Reference is attached for information. The Terms of Reference will be brought forward to the first Task Force meeting for consideration and may be modified by the Task Force at that time.

Financial and Resource Implications

There will be relatively minor costs associated with the establishment of the Task Force. Generally, staff will work with the members to hold meetings before or after other County meetings in order to reduce the necessity for members to travel.

Relevant Consultation

- CAO
- External

Appendices and Attachments

Draft Terms of Reference

[AMO Compendium of Municipal Health Activities and Recommendations](#)

Health Care Funding Roles and Responsibility Task Force

Mission/ Purpose:

This Task Force is responsible for the development of a health care spending policy that will guide Grey County Council's decision-making regarding funding requests from health care stakeholders.

Objectives:

1. To create a Health Care Spending Policy that will:
 - a. Provide the rationale for the Grey County Health Care levy
 - b. Outline the funding request process and eligibility requirements
 - c. Recommend a formula to determine maximum annual reserve contributions.

Governance roles and responsibilities:

The Health Care Roles and Responsibility Task Force will seek input from health care stakeholders to provide staff with direction on the development of a Health Care Spending Policy to be applied in a consistent manner to funding requests received by Grey County from health care stakeholders.

Membership

Members of the Health Care Roles and Responsibility Task Force are appointed by Council and include four members of Council and the Warden. Each member of the task force shall:

1. Exercise the care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent person would exercise in comparable circumstances.
2. Become informed about health care sector funding in Ontario,
3. Take necessary measures to ensure that the corporation complies with legislation,
4. Be committed to achieving and maintaining the vision, mission and values of Grey County, and
5. Promote and communicate positively with the public about the partnerships with health care related stakeholders.

Chair and Vice Chair

The Warden will be the Chair of the Task Force. A Vice-Chair will be elected by the task force members at the first meeting of the year.

Advice to Council

The Task Force shall make recommendations to Council on the following matters, for which Council retains the decision-making role:

1. The annual operating budget provisions related to health care spending and requests from stakeholders that would require County financial support in whole or in part;
2. Development of a policy related to health care spending.

Meetings

The Task Force will meet at the call of the Chair.

Quorum

A quorum is more than 50% of the membership of the Task force.

Statutory Authority

The Task Force is guided by Grey County's Procedural By-law, Council's Code of Conduct, Provincial Acts and regulations, and other Grey County Policies as applicable.

Reporting Relationship

The Task Force reports to Grey County Committee of the Whole