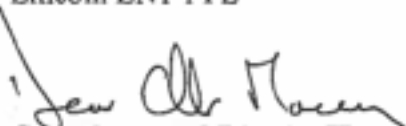


Councillor Carl Macey
Chairman
Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire
Lincolnshire County Council
County Offices
Newland
Lincoln LN1 1YL



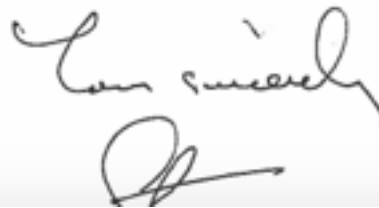
- jennyshepherd
12/09/2018, 18:05:30

NO DATE ON LETTER


Grantham and District Hospital

Thank you for your recent letters about this issue.

I enclose a copy of the letters I have sent the Trust and CCG asking them to report to me by the end of December on their progress in implementing the advice set out in the IRP report last year. I will share this with you. I have also asked the chief executives of NHSE England and NHS Improvement to help ensure that this report is delivered on time.





Department
of Health &
Social Care

Steve Barclay MP
Minister of State for Health

39 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0EU

020 7210 4850

Jan Sobieraj
Chief Executive
United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust
Greetwell Road
Lincoln
LN2 5QY

Grantham and District Hospital

As you know, last year the Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire referred to the then Secretary of State, Jeremy Hunt, the decision to change A&E services at Grantham and District Hospital. The Independent Reconfiguration Panel's advice was published last August and Jeremy agreed then that:

"Patients, the public and stakeholders at Grantham require a consistent picture of what is on offer at Grantham. The changes being made to the opening hours and the introduction of a direct to admission unit pathway for selected medical patients provide little reassurance that the A&E will be able to return to a 24/7 service...

"...the time has come for an open and honest appraisal, both of the options for future emergency care delivery at Grantham and more widely across Lincolnshire. An alternative to the current approach is needed that reflects the prospective staffing position for emergency care provided by the Trust. Recognising that the staffing threshold currently required to restore the service at Grantham is unlikely to be achieved in a sustainable way CCGs, as commissioners of these services, must as a matter of urgency work with the local providers (including mental health care and community providers as well as ULHT) and the HSC to engage and consult the public across Lincolnshire on current services and what might be achievable and sustainable in the future. Drawing on the work already done for the sustainability and transformation plan for the area, a plan of action for the whole health economy is required that will implement safe and sustainable urgent and emergency services and bring about an early end to the current uncertainty."

A copy of this advice can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/irp-grantham-initial-assessment>

You may also know that the Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire has expressed further concern recently about progress with implementing the IRP's advice (my emphasis) that "...as the staffing threshold currently required to restore the service at Grantham is unlikely to be achieved in a sustainable way *CCGs and local commissioners must work with local providers and the HSC to engage and consult the public on future services.*"

I should therefore be most grateful if you would let me have, by the end of December, in a format that I can share with the Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire and with Nick Boles MP, a report setting out, including a timetable, how you have carried out, or plan to carry out, the engagement and consultation envisaged.

I have written in similar terms to Dr Dave Baker, Chair of South West Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group; and to Nick Boles MP; and I have copied this letter to Councillor Macey, Chairman, Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire.


STEVE BARCLAY



Department
of Health &
Social Care

Steve Barclay MP
Minister of State for Health

39 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0EU

020 7210 4850

Dr Dave Baker
Chair
South West Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group
South Kesteven District Council Offices
St Peter's Hill
Grantham
NG31 6PZ



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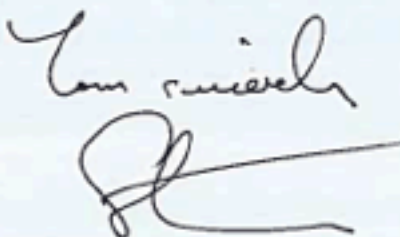
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I have written in similar terms to Mr Jan Sobieraj, Chief Executive, United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust; and to Nick Boles MP; and I have copied this letter to Councillor Macey, Chairman, Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Barclay', written over a horizontal line.

STEVE BARCLAY