

By email:

hello@improvinghealthcaretogether.org.uk

Date: 28 February 2020

Dear Sirs,

Public consultation on Epsom St Helier proposals

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on proposals for the future of Epsom and St Helier Hospitals and for new specialist emergency care provision in the area.

Epsom and St Helier University Hospitals University NHS Trust provides hospital and clinical services for around 50,000 Reigate & Banstead borough residents. The Borough Council is therefore very interested in your proposals for the longer term clinical and financial sustainability of service provision and keen to be engaged in your decision-making process.

We support – in principle – the creation of a specialist emergency care hospital (SECH) at either Epsom or Sutton, subject to the retention of a full suite of local services at Epsom Hospital, including a 24-hour urgent care facility.

Funding

We note the £500m allocated by Government towards hospital improvements in the Trust area. It will be important that sufficient funding is available not only for the delivery of a new hospital building at Sutton but also the upgrades required to Epsom & St Helier Hospitals to provide the range and quality of service presented in the consultation documents. We would therefore seek reassurance that – should funding be limited or costs for a future SECH at Sutton increase – this does not compromise investment to the required level at Epsom.

Deliverability

The site identified for the new SECH is part of the wider site on which a new London Cancer Hub is proposed. We recognise the benefits that could be secured through co-location, but consider that it is critically important that conversations continue to

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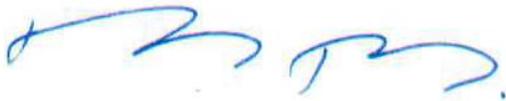
take place between the CCGs, the Trust and the London Borough of Sutton about how the two proposals can be delivered successfully.

Public transport

One of your consultation questions is about public transport improvements to facilitate access to the new specialist emergency care hospital. We do not wish to make specific suggestions at this stage, however we would urge that in developing any future proposals for development at the Sutton Hospital site, the CCGs work closely with the London Borough of Sutton, Surrey County Council and Reigate & Banstead Borough Council to explore how public transport and sustainable travel options can assist in reducing the number of journeys by private car and minimising the local congestion that may arise from development on the Sutton Hospital site, both in the London Borough of Sutton and in Reigate & Banstead Borough.

I trust that these comments are of help. I would be very happy to meet to discuss your proposals further.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Mark Brunt', written in a cursive style.

Cllr Mark Brunt

Leader, Reigate & Banstead Borough Council