

Bell Ribeiro-Addy MP
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HOUSE OF COMMONS, LONDON SW1A 0AA

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Improving Healthcare Together
NHS Surrey Downs, Sutton and Merton CCGs

Our Ref: BRA/WS/114
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Dear Improving Healthcare Together,

Thank you for you opening your proposals on NHS care in South London to public consultation. I am writing to you with my concerns on behalf of constituents in Streatham, who worry the proposals would place significant pressure on the already overstretched St George's Hospital.

The proposal to downgrade St Helier Hospital by moving all acute services including major A&E, critical care, emergency surgery, in-patient paediatrics and children's beds to Belmont would see local residents lose quick access to care.

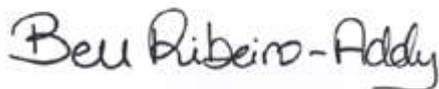
I am concerned that many residents who would currently use St Helier's hospital are far more likely to move to the much closer St George's rather than travel further south to Belmont as this proposal envisages. This would lead to a visible reduction in per person health investment for my constituents. Despite this, the programme's draft Integrated Impact Assessment suggests that there will be an addition of just 13 more beds at St George's.

The hospital is already under immense pressure. A significant additional increase in demand without extra funding could be devastating.

No matter what site is chosen, this programme proposes to reduce the Trust's two A&Es to one. Given the current COVID-19 pandemic, it is more obvious than ever that we are in no position to be shrinking our hospital services.

It is vital that the impact that this programme could have on Streatham residents is thoroughly considered so that any decision does not have a detrimental impact on Streatham residents and on St George's Hospital. I respectfully urge you to reconsider these elements of the proposal.

Yours sincerely,



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