

Letter from consultants at Epsom and St Helier University Hospitals NHS Trust

We are writing as a group of senior clinicians from Epsom and St Helier University Hospitals NHS Trust to express our views about the proposals for Improving Healthcare Together, currently undergoing public consultation.

We recognise the case for change including:

- the challenge to meet the quality standards of care into the future if we continue to operate our most acute and complex services on two sites. We believe that consolidating these acute services onto a single site will enhance the quality and safety of care for our most complex patients, and allow more timely decision making by senior clinicians, and regular review of our sickest patients.
- the need to have new buildings to deliver modern healthcare in order to promote a healing environment, and to increase the numbers of individual rooms for patients most at need
- the need to work more efficiently by bringing our teams together to work in a more joined up way, and to support the rehabilitation of frail older people in an environment that helps them get back to their own home.

We support the proposals to create a single specialist emergency care hospital to include an Emergency Department, Acute Medicine, Acute and Complex Surgery, in-patient Paediatrics, Maternity and Critical Care, for the care of our sickest patients. We support the development of Epsom and St Helier as District Sites to manage 85% of the care that people receive at our hospitals to include outpatients, day case surgery, diagnostics (such as scans and endoscopy), antenatal and post-natal care, dialysis provision, chemotherapy, urgent treatment centres, and beds to support frail older people who are recovering from an illness. In addition, we support the maintenance of our elective orthopaedic centre (SWLEOC) at Epsom.

Whilst the Specialist Emergency Care Hospital could be located at St Helier, Epsom or Sutton, we believe that Sutton provides a number of advantages including ease of build (and less disruption to our services whilst it is being constructed), potential opportunities to improve the care of patients within our locality with cancer as it will be co-located with the Royal Marsden Hospital, maintenance of most of our catchment area, less disruption to other hospitals and more convenience to more of the population that we serve.

Great care to every patient, every day

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Chairman Gillian Norton | **Chief Executive** Daniel Elkeles

Yours sincerely,

Women and Children's Services

Women's Health – Epsom

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Women's Health - St Helier

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South West London Elective Orthopaedic Centre (SWLEOC)

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Care of the Elderly

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