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SASSE Locality Network GPs
Studholme, 50 Church Road, Ashford, TW15 2TU

September 2017

Re: Planned Closure of the Blanche Heriot Unit at St Peter's Hospital, Chertsey, Surrey

Dear Dr Glynn,

We are writing to respond to the letter which you directed to us last month in our capacity as Co-Chairs of Surrey Health and Wellbeing Board regarding sexual health services in North West Surrey. Many thanks for drawing attention to the concerns which you and your colleagues have about the future of sexual health, HIV and GUM services in Surrey. The Health & Wellbeing Board is aware that there is concern among patients and staff about the new sexual health contract.

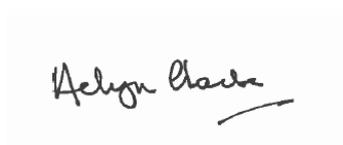
The role of health & wellbeing boards as set out in the Health and Social Care Act [2012] is to set the strategic direction of health and social care delivery within their defined local authority areas. In order to achieve this Surrey Health & Wellbeing Board is comprised of organisations responsible for commissioning health and social care services in the county. The Board itself is unable to commission services, the budgets and responsibility for which remain with the sovereign organisations that constitute the Board. Responsibility for commissioning sexual health services sits with Surrey County Council through its Public Health Team while the role of commissioning HIV services sits with NHS England. The Health and Wellbeing Board does, however, review the commissioning intentions of all organisations which commission health and social care services in Surrey and first became aware of plans to reconfigure the sexual health services contract in December 2016 when fulfilling this responsibility. The Board understands that the sexual health services contract was developed and awarded in accordance with the data contained in Surrey's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), should the data in the JSNA demonstrate that these outcomes have been negatively impacted under the stewardship of Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust then rest assured that this will be reviewed by the Board.

The reconfiguration of sexual health services in Surrey was reviewed by the County Council's Adults & Health Select Committee on 4 September 2017. The Committee recommended:

1. That the performance of the sexual health and HIV service contracts are reviewed in 9 months' time.
2. That the Committee establish a task group to review the implementation phase, consultation process and lessons learnt from the commissioning of sexual health and HIV services, with a view to informing future commissioning of services.

We have forwarded your letter onto Andy Spragg who is the officer responsible for coordinating the Committee and would recommend getting in touch with him directly if you have any questions about the work of the Committee. You can contact Andy by email on andrew.spragg@surreycc.gov.uk or by phone on 0208 213 2673.

Best wishes,



Helyn Clack
Co-Chair
Surrey Health & Wellbeing Board



Dr Andy Brooks
Co-Chair
Surrey Health & Wellbeing Board