



Hampshire
County Council

25 July 2012

Mark Hackett
Chief Executive
University Hospital Southampton Foundation
Trust
(by e-mail)

*Room 105, Chief Executives
Hampshire County Council
The Castle, Winchester
Hampshire, SO23 8UJ*

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Dear Mark

Relocation of Elderly Care Beds

Please extend my thanks to Dr Derek Sandeman and Ali Ayres, Director of Communications and Public Engagement, who attended the 24 July HOSC in order to inform the Committee of the proposed relocation of elderly care beds from Southampton General Hospital to the Royal South Hants.

I can confirm that the Committee resolved the following in relation to this agenda item:

1. That the proposals do not constitute a substantial change in service, as the move in service will predominantly affect service users in the Southampton area, and there will be no clinical change to the service to be provided.

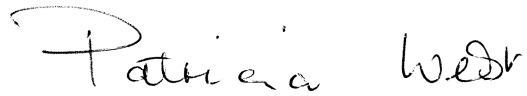
The Committee did however request further information and assurances around the following points:

- The number of Hampshire patients likely to be affected by this move.
- That the re-opened ward at the Royal South Hants Hospital is clinically and therapeutically appropriate, and that there will be adequate medical cover.
- How this move in beds will result in improved outcomes and patient pathways for:
 - a. Elderly care patients
 - b. Surgical care patients
 - c. Urgent and emergency care patients
- The engagement that will be undertaken with current and future service users, their families and carers.
- The consultation work undertaken with stakeholders who are involved in the elderly care pathway, specifically Southampton and Hampshire Council adult services, community health service providers, the ambulance service and patient transport services.

We understand from Dr Sandeman that this move is part of a wider strategic aim to tackle the issue of unscheduled / urgent care demand and the bed capacity deficit in the Southampton (and general South Hampshire) area. We would be interested to understand how University Hospital Southampton will be taking forward such work.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any additional information about the comments above.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patricia West". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'P'.

Cllr Pat West
Chairman, Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

cc Dr Ros Tolcher, Chief Executive, Solent NHS Trust