

MEMBERS ROOM



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Date	6 October 2017	Contact	Councillor Barry Nash Councillor Richard Baker
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Dear Daniel

We welcome the Trust's strategic initiative in creating a post 2020 vision for the provision of hospital services within the Trust's catchment area. We also appreciate the opportunity to be part of this engagement process, recognising the important civic leadership role which this council provides for our residents.

Epsom & Ewell Borough Council fully supports the need for a new specialist acute facility within the Trust's area which brings together services for our most sick and most at-risk patients, as we believe this will secure the future of the Trust and its two main sites. With the population of the Borough having increased by 1% in each of the last ten years and with the government currently consulting on the need for substantial increases in housing units within the Borough, investment in healthcare provision to support this growing population is imperative.

However, we also strongly support the new specialist acute unit based on the existing Epsom site: there is a clear rationale for supporting an Epsom location. Epsom hospital is in an ideal location. It is in the centre of the Trust's catchment area. Transport access to Epsom is well served by road and motorway links and by public transport. Furthermore, this would also provide a much-needed resource for the residents of East Surrey.

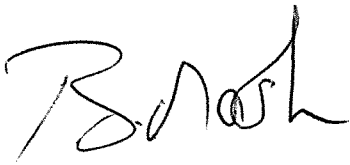
We believe the St Helier or combined site (Sutton and Royal Marsden) options would both result in specialist services being too London centric, creating an imbalance with the provision of acute services within the county and the Trust's catchment area. There could be additional patient risks associated with longer travel times and delays due to congested traffic.

We welcome and strongly support the Trust's strategy of approaching central government to obtain the additional funding for an acute unit from Treasury funds, which are held for this very purpose.

We are very proud to have the current centre of excellence for elective orthopaedic surgery based in Epsom hospital, performed by the South West London Elective Orthopaedic Centre (SWLEOC). We very much want to support and retain this important service, which provides such good outcomes and we are keen to develop new service opportunities in other areas of treatment at Epsom hospital. We are also keen to support the further development of the fully integrated Epsom Health and Care@home service for people over 65, which is improving the lives of our residents and their carers.

Lastly, as your plans progress, we would welcome the opportunity to continue to contribute to the future development of the Trust's plans. We suggest establishing a Hospital Consultation Committee, including representatives from Epsom & Ewell Borough Council. We believe this would significantly assist in your future community engagement activities and help to ensure comprehensive healthcare provision, for all residents in the future.

Yours sincerely



On behalf of the Council
Councillor Barry Nash



Councillor Richard Baker