

COUNCILLOR STAN ANDERSON
(Labour, St. Helier Ward)



Mr Daniel Elkeles
ESTH 2020-2030
Epsom and St Helier University Hospitals NHS Trust
Ferguson House
St Helier Hospital
Wrythe Lane
Surrey, SM5 1AA

London Borough of Merton
Merton Civic Centre
London Road
Morden SM4 5DX

Tel: 020 8545 3424 (Civic Centre)
Mob: 07950 820 883
Email: stan.anderson@merton.gov.uk

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Dear Epsom and St Helier University Hospitals NHS Trust

RE: Response to *Providing high quality healthcare services 2020 to 2030*

I am writing regarding the ongoing engagement and in support of the improving of St Helier Hospital at Rose Hill.

I strongly believe that St Helier should remain on its current site with all its current acute services intact including a consultant-led maternity unit and all of its Accident and Emergency services.

I am a councillor in Mitcham and Morden, representing Lower Morden ward. My ward, and Mitcham and Morden as a whole, has a great need for St Helier hospital to remain on its current site. Quite a number of residents have been there from when the estate was formed and the hospital was built for their health services, and they have grown old visiting it. It is nearby and easily accessible, and their children and grandchildren have grown visiting it to keep them in good health. If they had to travel long distances they could not afford taxi fares and would have to suffer without treatment.

I was previously a councillor for St Helier ward I am now a councillor for the adjoining ward where I live and I have got the classic example for wanting the hospital to remain on the site for the St Helier residents and residents of surrounding wards. Just recently my wife Jennifer suffered a heart attack and because the hospital was in near reach I was able to get her to the A & E quickly and thank God it meant they were able to minimise the damage. My daughter suffers from Lupus and has to make regular visits to the hospital and could not afford regular taxis if the hospital was moved to another area.

My residents, compared to residents in Epsom and Belmont, are not only more deprived but also have the greater health needs, e.g. maternity and A & E. The statistics could not be clearer: if the acute services from St Helier were moved to Belmont or Epsom, you would literally be taking acute services from an area of bad health to an area of considerably better health.