1) Do you agree with our aim to provide as much care as possible from our existing hospital sites at St Helier and Epsom and do this by working more closely with the other local health and care providers?

Yes as it is important that residents do not have to travel too far for routine health care which can safely be delivered in a local setting by those skilled in delivering that care and know the local population and repeat users of the service. There is no point changing something that is currently working ok.

2) Do you think we have made the case that we will improve patient care by bringing together our services for our sickest or most at-risk patients on a new specialist acute facility on one site?

For those in need of very specialist acute facilities then having the skilled workforce in one area would make sense and allow those specialists to be dealing with a critical mass of patients that make it both safe and economical to provide those services. However it is also important that travelling time and distance to the specialist site is not too great that residents fear not being able to reach the facility in time. It is important that the travel infrastructure is both appropriate and robust for both emergency vehicles but also those who may be visiting in-patients. A new facility would allow all the latest innovation in building structure/layout to allow the highest levels of care and minimisation of infection to be utilised.

3) We have set out several scenarios on how we can do this. Do you think we should consider any other scenarios?

Not related to sites but we think that there needs to be a new walk in GP practice included in any facility that is not on either the Epsom or St Helier sites.

4) How would you like to be involved in these discussions in the future?

We would like to be kept informed and involved via email to shanklinvillage@hotmail.co.uk

5) Is there anything else you would like to tell us?
We would support the proposed co-location with the Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust (RMH) providing this does not have a negative impact on the high quality of services and CQC and other inspection results achieved by RMH. We would also not want to see any limitation or restrictions put on RMH for their own expansion. There are positives and negatives for co-location.

Some of the negatives include the current lack of transport infrastructure in the local area and some very badly designed junctions. It should also be noted that there is to be a new secondary school very close by and there could potentially be issues with fast moving emergency vehicles and young people travelling to and from school.

Some of the positives could be sharing of some ‘back office’ services between RMH and the new acute hospital which could save money for both Trusts. Currently RMH has limited access to acute care facilities so having an acute centre co-locating could benefit RMH patients.

Shanklin Village is currently one of the few local areas of housing that has no parking scheme in place and parking on the local estate roads is already a problem due to those working at RMH and those who pick up the ambulances from Sutton Hospital site using the area to avoid parking charges. As members of the Shanklin Village Residents Association we would want to see any development of an acute hospital on the Sutton Hospital/RMH site make provision for ensuring that we were not be further adversely impacted.

Yours sincerely,

Angela Purdue
Chair
Shanklin Village Residents Association