

## St Barnabas Church: St Helier Hospital Engagement

### Example 1

[Insert Your Address Here]

August 2017

Dear Mr Elkeles,

I am writing regarding the ongoing engagement named Epsom and St Helier 2020-2030 that could see acute services move from St Helier Hospital to either Epsom or Belmont.

I cannot begin to describe the devastating impact that this would have on my local community. I live near St George's Hospital, attending St Barnabas Church. Our community shares the same concern: what would happen to St George's if St Helier's acute services were to go? Residents in our borough consider themselves Londoners and I understand from friends and family elsewhere in the borough that they would use St George's rather than travel to Belmont or Epsom. As I'm sure you are aware, St George's is already at breaking point. We all know the burden that the loss of the Wilson Centre has had on St Helier's A&E. A similar domino effect from St Helier to St George's would bring it to collapse.

Past governments have pledged funds to improve St Helier Hospital. Your proposals, on the other hand, damage not one hospital but two. I sincerely hope you use any available funds to invest in St Helier on its current site.

Yours Sincerely

### Example 2

[Insert Your Address Here]

August 2017

Dear Mr Elkeles,

Once again we face proposals that could see St Helier downgraded. I attend St Barnabas Church in Mitcham and our congregation is particularly worried about the outcome of these proposals.

As a resident living near St George's Hospital, I have seen my local hospital at breaking point. St Georges is already over-stretched and has had to close its maternity unit on a number of occasions to mums in labour. The A&E regularly fails to meet its 4 hour waiting time target and has one of the highest breaches of its 17 week treatment target. St Helier already acts as a safety valve, taking in mums in labour who have been turned away at St Georges and taking on patients who need to be seen within 14 days. I can only imagine the impact that the loss of consultant led maternity services at St Helier would have on St George's.

If there are funds available, please use them to invest in St Helier and ensure all current services remain fully operating. I would be grateful if you could register my views as part of your ongoing engagement process and I ask that you use any future engagement or consultation funds on improving the hospital as we've all been through this process time and time again.

Thank you