

COUNCILLOR MARK ALLISON

Cabinet Member for Finance
(Labour, Lavender Fields Ward)



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Mr Laurence Newman
Chairman, Epsom and St Helier University
Hospitals NHS Trust
St Helier Hospital
Wrythe Lane
Carshalton
Surrey SM5 1AA

Dear Mr Newman

I am writing regarding a reply I have received from Daniel Elkeles to a letter I sent about Epsom and St Helier University Hospitals NHS Trust's engagement on the future of acute services at both Epsom and St Helier Hospitals. I had understood the engagement would run until 30 September, and was not expecting a reply, particularly as it appeared to indicate that the Trust had made conclusions even before the consultation period was over.

If the Trust was completely open minded on the location of a new acute hospital, I would not have expected a response until after all the submissions had been received and carefully considered. Given the reply I have received I can no longer consider that to be the case.

I am also concerned that it appears the Trust believes that inequality need not be taken into account in its considerations, when in fact it has a very clear legal duty under the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

I am very sorry to have written to you in this way and hope that you will take this issue of apparent predetermination extremely seriously.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Mark Allison
Cabinet Member for Finance

Cc Patricia Baskerville, Non-Executive Director and Vice Chair
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