

Recd in CEO's office.  
7th Sept '17.

**COUNCILLOR PHILIP JONES**  
(Labour, Ravensbury Ward)



Mr D Elkeles  
ESTH 2020-2030  
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Dear Mr Elkeles,

I am writing to you about the current 'engagement' regarding the future of hospital provision in our district.

I am a member of Merton Council, representing Ravensbury ward. This has a roughly triangular shape, its apexes being at Morden town centre, Mitcham tramstop and Rose Hill. It is thus very close to St Helier hospital. It is one of the most deprived wards in Merton, and therefore in the Epsom and St Helier district as a whole. It scores badly on deprivation not because of housing or environmental factors, but because of the poor health of its residents, who have the lowest expectation of life in our borough.

I understand that the focus of the current 'engagement' is likely to be whether future development of services be on the St Helier, Belmont or Epsom hospital sites. It seems to me common sense to concentrate provision, if this has to be done, in the area of greatest need. Were either of the other two options chosen there would inevitably be more pressure on the already overstretched facilities at St George's, which would be more accessible to most of my residents. (This likelihood particularly reinforces the need to retain maternity and A and E services at St Helier.)

I believe the 'engagement' is the fifth consultation about the future of our local health services. All previous such efforts have concluded that continued provision of a wide range of services at St Helier is a necessity. There has been no change in this situation.

Yours sincerely,

(Councillor) Philip Jones.