

Ref: JJ/dn

29 August 2008

Mr Roy While
Chairman
Wiltshire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
71 Locking Close
Bowerhill
Melksham
SN12 6XS

Southgate House
Pans Lane
Devizes
Wiltshire
SN10 5EQ
Tel: 01380 736002
Fax: 01380 722442
e-mail jeff.james@wiltshire-pct.nhs.uk

Dear Roy

Thank you for your letter 26 August concerning the petition organised by Mary Jarvis and Gill Butler. I have asked colleagues to gather the information in relation to the questions posed by the HOSC and I expect to write to you in time for the meeting on 18 September.

There are two general points that I would like you and members of the HOSC to consider. The petition has been received and considered by the PCT at a meeting held in public. The meeting was addressed by Mary Jarvis and considered a report on the impact of the minor injuries service changes. The PCT board recognised the strength of feeling represented by the petition and acknowledged the effort and commitment of Mary Jarvis and Gill Butler in gathering the petition. The PCT Board also recognised that the factual evidence it received about the use of the reshaped services did not point to the need to revisit the decision to restructure the minor injuries service.

The second issue is that for the PCT, the restructuring of minor injury services is a countywide matter affecting all communities, including Melksham. In addressing the HOSC queries, I suggest, respectfully, your committee needs to have in mind questions of equity for people in Wiltshire as a whole as well as the particular issues raised by the organisers of the petition and their supporters.

I trust you find these initial responses helpful.

Yours sincerely



Jeff James
Chief Executive