

Dr David Sharp
Director of the Leicestershire and Lincolnshire Area Team
Fosse House
6 Smith Way, Grove Park
Enderby
LE19 1SX

County Offices
Newland
Lincoln
LN1 1YL

17 September 2014

Dear Dr Sharp

BURTON ROAD SURGERY, LINCOLN – RESPONSE TO THE CONSULTATION

I am pleased to set out below the response of the Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire to the registered patient and stakeholder consultation on Burton Road Surgery in Lincoln.

Options

I would like to confirm that the Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire strongly supports the long term retention of GP services at the Burton Road Surgery in Lincoln. With regard to the two options presented as part of the registered patient and stakeholder consultation, the Committee's preference is Option 1. However, the Committee is concerned that Option 1 includes the wording "or may not continue", as this would mean that both Options 1 and 2 could end in closure of the surgery.

The Committee would like services to continue from the Burton Road Surgery, because this surgery is strongly supported by the local community and its existing patients, a number of whom are elderly and who would not welcome travelling to or using an alternative GP surgery. The Committee welcomes the fact that the number of patients leaving the surgery in recent weeks has fallen and this supports the continuing viability of the surgery.

Procurement Exercise

The Committee understands that the Area Team is due to make a decision on whether to undertake a procurement exercise in early October. If the Area Team decides to go ahead with a procurement exercise, the Committee would also urge that every effort is made to seek interest from potential and suitable providers.

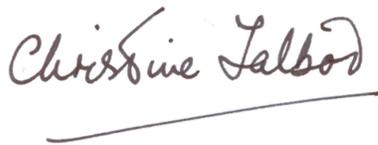
Even if the procurement exercise does not yield an interested provider, the Committee understands that the Area Team could still make a decision to secure the provision of GP services for the patients of Burton Road Surgery.

Communication with Patients

The Committee stresses the importance of communication with patients at the Burton Road surgery. Thus any developments at the surgery should be notified to each patient via a personally addressed letter. In relation to the decision on whether to procure, the Committee confirms that it would like each patient to receive a notification letter at the same time as the outcomes and details of the consultation exercise are made public and a statement released to the local media.

The Committee looks forward to further engagement with the Area Team on both the future of Burton Road Surgery and any other relevant activities.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christine Talbot". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a single horizontal line that underlines the name.

Councillor Mrs Christine Talbot
Chairman of the Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire
(Email: CllrC.Talbot@lincolnshire.gov.uk)