

R/M/6/9

Mr Rolley

30 September 2008

Dear Mary

### **BUILDING OUR FUTURE..... YOUR HOSPITAL**

On behalf of the Town Council I should like to submit this letter supporting the principles governing the above consultation and specifically the Trust's proposals for development of services at the Queen Victoria Hospital and for the site redevelopment.

Specifically and focussing on the questions contained within your consultation document Members support your proposals to extend the opening times of the Minor Injuries Unit and to include minor ailments as part of the MIU. We also support proposals for a GP surgery on site if that is the policy wish of the GP's themselves, and consider there would be community benefits in bringing the Sleep Disorder Centre back into the main hospital site. Members also welcome all your proposals for specialist services, including relating to maxillofacial surgery, ophthalmic services, hand surgery, the burns service and for delivery of an extended range of services through spokes.

More generally I wish to repeat some of what the Town Council wrote in its submission to the North East Review of Secondary Care being undertaken under the aegis of West Sussex Primary Care Trust. We recognise that there are real opportunities at Queen Victoria Hospital to fill some of the gaps that currently exist and that may be identified by the North East Review and see real benefit, particularly in an area such as East Grinstead which does have poor public transport links to deliver health services closer to home. In this we recognise that the Queen Victoria Hospital does have the opportunity to deliver more specialist and some local acute services for the North East area of West Sussex.

Specifically Town Councillors believe there are real opportunities to provide additional secondary care services at the Queen Victoria Hospital including for example:

Continued....

FREEPOST RCC 2987  
Building our future... Your hospital  
Queen Victoria Hospital  
Holtye Road, East Grinstead  
West Sussex, RH19 3DZ  
f.a.o Mary Goode

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- extend the range of diagnostics available;
- to deliver additional outpatients clinics including for ear, nose and throat services;
- in enhancing oncology care to include a wider delivery of chemotherapy and radiotherapy on an outpatients basis with such services being offered as a spoke to a major cancer centre;
- to provide renal dialysis services to avoid the need for patients to travel lengthy distances usually to the south coast, and
- to expand and broaden services for local general ophthalmic needs.

All of the above could be achievable given the possibilities that exist with the current hospital site and the timeliness of the current redevelopment consultation proposal.

In respect of site redevelopment Members fully support this in principle though until detailed plans are available for consultation it is not possible to comment further. Obviously issues of design, landscaping, highway access/egress, adequacy of parking provision and relating to good neighbourliness generally are all areas that Members would wish to see addressed.

Yours sincerely

Town Clerk