



A lifetime of specialist care

Chair's office
Tel: 020 7351 8603 (DL)
Fax: 020 7351 8290

Royal Brompton Hospital
Sydney Street
London
SW3 6NP

09 December 2020

T: +44 (0)20 7352 8121
F: +44 (0)20 7351 8473

VIA EMAIL : Yasmin.jama@rbkc.gov.uk

Cllr Marwan Elnaghi
Chair of the Adult Social Care and Health Select Committee
Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea

Dear Cllr Elnaghi

Thank you for your letter of 7th December.

I exchanged letters about this matter last week with your fellow councillors, Cem Kemahli and Johnny Thalassites, and have attached our correspondence for your information. As I explained to them, the Board of Royal Brompton & Harefield NHSFT has kept the progress of our work in preparing for this transaction under review and remains committed to the established timetable. The meeting of the Council of Governors on 15th December 2020 is not an 'emergency' meeting: it is an addition to the normal schedule, convened to focus on the proposed transaction, and was called at least two months in advance. You will be aware that there is already a motion before that meeting, tabled by RBKC's appointed Governor, to delay consideration of the transaction. For completeness, I will circulate all four letters in this correspondence to Board Directors and members of the Council of Governors.

I should emphasise that this transaction is not being rushed. We have been working in partnership with Guy's and St Thomas' NHSFT for over three years, and first presented our proposals to your council's Oversight & Scrutiny Committee in September 2018. The proposal to bring the two Trusts together emerged over twelve months ago and we have briefed councillors and committee members – and our local MPs – at different stages throughout the past year.

We recognise that RBKC councillors are opposed to the possible future move of Royal Brompton Hospital (RBH) away from the borough. As you know, any proposals to move or change services at RBH will be subject to formal public consultation with all relevant parties, including your council, patient representatives and local partners and will be run by NHS England – but you are also aware that we expect to continue to deliver our specialist heart and lung services at RBH for at least another decade.

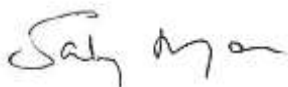
I was pleased to note that, at your committee meeting on 19th November, the other hospitals represented – Chelsea & Westminster, Imperial College Healthcare and Royal Marsden – acknowledged our clear commitment to continue to work with them to support their patients and services in the short, medium and long term, irrespective of our merger proposals.

/....



The same is true of our commitment to research and the partnership we have with Imperial College: we have no wish or plans to break up successful academic relationships and remain committed to working with colleagues at the College to sustain them for the future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sally Morgan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Baroness (Sally) Morgan of Huyton
Chair