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17th December 2010

Mr. D Mott
30 Red Cedars Road
Orpington
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Dear Mr Mott

Re: Questions for PDS meeting 2nd November 2010

I understand you recently submitted three questions the London Borough of Bromley Adult and Community Services Policy Development and Scrutiny (PDS) Committee who in their response referred your questions to South London Healthcare NHS Trust.

Please be advised of the Trust response to the questions that you submitted that are as follows:

Is this Committee aware that elderly patients admitted to PRUH and QEH may be transferred post surgery to QMS if there are bed capacity issues and that there will be no Critical Care Unit at QMS just Critical Care Support?

The Trust understands that the Committee is aware that elderly patients admitted to PRUH and QEH may be transferred post surgery to QMS if there are bed capacity issues and that the committee is also aware that there will be no Critical Care Unit at QMS just Critical Care Support. The sub-acute unit at QM is a new development which should improve the care of this group of patients.

APoH consultation states that Elective Surgery be transferred to QMS in order to separate Planned and Emergency surgery thereby negating cross infection and yet we are now told that only non-complex cases will be dealt with at QMS – can the committee tell the public how this complies with APoH ?

70 to 80% of inpatients will be treated initially at Queen Mary's, Sidcup. As the experience of the unit grows the Trust expects that the percentage of patients that can be treated at QM will increase. The Trust is considering whether it should plan for the introduction of Intensive Care on the QM site at some point in the future.

Will this committee ensure that the Trust guarantees that beds in the Stroke Unit are 'ring-fenced' solely for Stroke patients and that if there is a capacity crisis and there are available beds on the Stroke Unit they will not be used for emergency or planned admissions, barring, understandably, a major incident

Yes, the Trust will undertake to "ring fence" beds in the Hyper Acute Stroke Unit.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. Weaver', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mr. Michael Weaver
Trust Board Secretary

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