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14th March 2019

Dear Louise,

**Epping Forest Local Plan Examination in Public: Statements on behalf of Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust (PAH) – Matters 1, 4 & 8
Planning Update following PAH Board Meeting on 6th March 2019**

Further to our letter dated 6th March 2019 and related planning statements, we write to provide the Planning Inspector with an update on PAH's position as previously mentioned.

At its meeting held on 7th March 2019, the PAH Board unanimously approved the recommended preferred way forward for the provision of a new hospital at Harlow. This option comprises the development of a new state of the art local acute hospital. The hospital is to be located on approximately 12 hectares of greenfield land within the East Harlow Strategic Development Allocation, as identified in the Epping Forest District Local Plan, Submission Version (2017), under Policy 5.3.

Following the Board's decision, PAH is also continuing to progress its Business Case and planning processes, and during this year, if funding is available and following regulator sign-off, it will be undertaking a related public consultation exercise on how best to deliver the preferred option. Therefore, subject to confirmation of Treasury funding, likely to be announced in Autumn 2019, PAH is aiming to deliver the new hospital by 2024/25.

Consequently, the proposed changes to the draft Local Plan as set out in our Planning Statement under Matter 6 in particular, remain pertinent to the public examination process.

We trust you will find this update to be useful and we would be grateful if the Inspector could be appraised of the content this letter.

Yours sincerely,

John Lawson
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