

Councillor Chris Winterton
County Hall
West Bridgford
NG2 7QP

6th May 2008

Dear Councillor Winterton

Re: LIFTS

I understand the LIFT Buildings Select Committee (OSC) is due to meet on 19th May and will be looking at the needs of providers in locating services in LIFT buildings. Matthew Garrard has advised the Select Committee would welcome the input of Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust (NUH) to this discussion in relation to:

- whether the Trust is operating any services from LIFT Buildings and the feedback from those services (benefits, problems etc)
- whether there are any specific services that the Trust would seek to operate from LIFT Buildings in the future
- whether there are any services that the Trust has been unable to provide from LIFT Buildings and the reasons why
- how the Trust is consulted on the development of new buildings, including which developments the Trust was consulted on

Thank you for asking for our input into this work. NUH does currently provide some services from LIFT premises and community hospitals. These include our Diabetic Retinopathy Screening Service, Ophthalmology outpatient clinics and Renal Dialysis. To date we have not undertaken a comprehensive evaluation of service delivery from community facilities however should you wish us to seek the views of the patients that access these services and / or the staff who provide them we would be very happy to do so. It is unlikely that we would be able to provide you with detailed feedback however by the 19th May.

You will be aware that we are currently in the process of developing a medium/long term strategy for the Trust. This work includes reviewing what services we provide and where they should be best located in the future. In

undertaking this work we are taking into account a number of factors including how accessible our services are for the population we serve, the need to ensure any new models of care are both efficient and effective as well as the transfer of services to the Nottingham NHS Treatment Centre.

Unfortunately at this point in time our planning process is not sufficiently progressed to be able to provide you with specifics around any increase in service transfer to the community. We would hope to be in a position to provide this information though towards the end of the year.

You will be aware that we have an External Reference Group that is overseeing the development of our strategy. This includes Commissioners and the Nottinghamshire Darzi lead. As such we are ensuring that our plans are consistent and coherent with those of our key partners. In addition our PCT colleagues are involving us in their planning work and we have recently been invited to attend County and City planning events on the future development of LIFT facilities.

I hope this information is helpful for the Committee. Should you require anything else, or would like a Trust representative to attend your meeting on 19th May please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

REBECCA LARDER
Deputy Director of Strategy

cc. Matthew Garrard, Scrutiny Officer