

By e-mail

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29th November 2018

Dear Marcus

Re: The future of local health services in northern Staffordshire


I am writing to confirm the outcomes of the assurance process for the consultation on the future of local health services in northern Staffordshire. This follows assurance checkpoint panel meetings held on 17 July and 1 October 2018 and evidence you subsequently provided.

I can now confirm on behalf of NHS England that we are assured that the proposals meet the five tests for service change and as such, I am content you proceed to consultation. You should take the final approved pre-consultation business case, consultation plan and consultation documents to the CCGs' Governing Bodies meeting in public in order to formally agree to launch consultation.

NHS England will require assurance of the decision-making business case prior to any final decisions being taken post-consultation.

I would like to thank you and your teams for your hard work and cooperation in progressing this. I wish you well with the consultation and look forward to hearing how you progress.

Yours sincerely



Dr. Paul Watson
Regional Director (Midlands and East)

c.c. Alison Tonge, Director of Commissioning Operations, North & West Midlands
Sir Neil McKay, Staffordshire STP Lead