

Our Ref: RB/DS

23rd November 2005

Councillor Richard Burnip
Vice Chair of the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee
District of Easington
Council Offices
Seaside Lane
Easington
Peterlee
County Durham
SR8 3TN

Health Partnership Centre
Fern Court
Bracken Hill Business Park
Peterlee
Co. Durham
SR8 2RR

Tel: 0191 5874800
Fax: 0191 587 4878
www.easington-pct.nhs.uk

Dear Councillor Burnip

The Darzi Review of Acute Health Services North and South of the Tees

Thank you for your letter of the 31st October 2005 about the transport issues associated with the Darzi Review of Acute Services in Teesside and Hartlepool. I am sorry that you have had to wait so long for this reply

My understanding of the commitment I made to the Council's Partnerships Scrutiny Committee is that I would be able to share progress on transport solutions by January 2006. Since the formal consultation period does not end until 23rd December 2005, and there being as yet no date set for the Joint Committee overseeing the consultation process to meet to receive the report on the outcome of consultation, talk of implementation of solutions is premature. Until the consultation process is complete there can be no decision taken about what service changes are to be taken forward – and the transport issues will follow these service changes.

I am very sorry if I have miscommunicated this situation. I remain committed to finding long term solutions to transport problems and I enclose a briefing note on all the work that is currently going on to improve transport provision in the district.

Yours sincerely

Dr Roger Bolas
Chief Executive

Mr Ken Greenfield
Chairman

Dr. Hugh Thomas
Executive Committee Chair

Dr. Roger Bolas
Chief Executive