

To:  
Better Health Programme  
Hambleton, Richmondshire & Whitby CCG  
NHS Darlington CCG  
South Tees Hospital NHS Foundation Trust  
County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust  
North Yorkshire Scrutiny of Health Committee  
Darlington BC Health & Partnership Scrutiny Cttee  
Better Health Programme Joint Health Scrutiny Cttee

Your Ref:  
My Ref: CP/160719 Better Health  
Dealt with by: Caroline Pounder  
Democratic Services

Date: 4 August 2016

Dear Sir/Madam,

### **The Better Health Review of Critical Care Services**

I write to advise you of a Notice of Motion relating to the Better Health review of Critical Care services at Darlington Memorial Hospital, considered at Richmondshire District Council's Council Meeting, held on Tuesday 19 July 2016.

Councillor John Blackie requested consideration of the following Notice of Motion:

*"The Better Health review of Critical Care services, including Accident & Emergency and Consultant-led maternity and paediatrics services at the Darlington Memorial Hospital is causing Richmondshire District Council great concern as any reduction or cut in these services would have a hugely detrimental impact on the health, well-being, and peace of mind of all those who live in the District. It strongly supports the initiative launched at the May meeting of North Yorkshire County Council which has led to a high level alliance between the Leaders of the political administrations at Darlington Borough Council and North Yorkshire County Council and the establishment of a joint Scrutiny of Health Committee between the two Councils.*

*It instructs Officers at Richmondshire District Council:*

- 1) to convey its deep concerns to the relevant NHS organisations, including the organisation conducting the Better Health Review itself and the Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby Clinical Commissioning Group.*
- 2) to inform Darlington Borough Council and North Yorkshire County Council and their joint Scrutiny of Health Committee of its support, and to offer to join in these initiatives in any way it is considered appropriate.*

*Richmondshire District Council considers the maintenance at their current level, or preferably with an embedded programme committed to their continuous improvement, of the Critical Care Services at the Darlington Memorial Hospital essential to guarantee their availability to deal with the immediate, urgent and unplanned healthcare needs of all residents in the District, and it resolves accordingly to adopt appropriate actions or measures to resist any attempt to downgrade them.”*

The Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Stuart Parsons and endorsed by all Members.

We would welcome your comments.

Yours sincerely,

pp. ***Sarah Holbird***

**Caroline Pounder**

Senior Democratic Services Officer

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cc. County Councillor Jim Clark  
County Councillor Caroline Dickenson