

From the Rt Hon the Earl Howe PC Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Quality (Lords)

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Sir Edward Garnier QC MP House of Commons Westminster London SW1A 0AA

0 7 OCT 2013

Dear Edward,

Thank you for your letter of 10 September to Jeremy Hunt about the development of St Luke's Hospital.

I can appreciate your frustration with the delays to the development of St Luke's Hospital, part of Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust. However, it is for the local NHS to implement its proposals for the development of the hospital and it would not be appropriate for ministers to intervene in this matter.

Departmental officials have made enquiries with NHS England, and I have been advised that NHS England's Leicestershire and Lincolnshire Local Area Team has reviewed the business case for the development and has recommended that it is now considered by NHS England at a regional and national level.

If you have further concerns about the business case, I would suggest that you contact Dr David Sharp, Area Director of the Leicestershire and Lincolnshire Local Area Team, at the address below:

Leicestershire and Lincolnshire Local Area Team Fosse House 6 Smith Way Grove Park Leicester LE19 1SX I hope this reply is helpful.

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EARL HOWE