

Councillor Steven Ricketts Chairman Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Panel Floor 1 - Civic Centre Plymouth PL1 2AA

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Your Ref:

Date: 20 January 2011

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My Ref:

Please ask for: Mr Ross Jago

Dr Simon Rule Clinical Director Peninsula Cancer Network West Yarner Dun Cross Dartington Totnes, Devon. TQ9 6DX

Dear Dr Rule,

You may recall appearing in front of the Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Panel on the 13 October 2010 in connection with a petition against the move of the Gynaecological Cancer Surgery Service from Derriford Hospital, Plymouth to Treliske Hospital in Truro. At that meeting the panel recommended that:

- I. a timetable for considering proposals and an option appraisal for service reconfiguration was made available to the panel at the earliest opportunity;
- 2. a detailed consultation plan for patients and the wider public with regard to the formation of service reconfiguration proposals would be made available to the panel at the earliest opportunity;
- 3. where possible NHS Plymouth and the Peninsula Cancer Network engage current and former patients in the service reconfiguration proposals and take advice on consultation from partner agencies.

The panel received an update at its most recent meeting on the 7 January 2011 which stated that a major event was held in December, bringing together patient representatives from across Devon, Cornwall, Plymouth and Torbay, to look at the practicalities of patient involvement in the reconfiguration of Gynaecological Cancer Surgery. Clearly a 'major event' would suggest a period of public engagement and consultation is currently being carried out. As yet the panel has not received the plan for public engagement for the coming year.

The panel made an undertaking to update petitioners, following receipt of a petition of over 3,000 signatures against possible reconfiguration of the service, with the most recent information.

If possible the panel would like to receive results of the major event which has taken place and information on how the event has informed the thinking behind possible future proposals around the reconfiguration of the service. The panel also requests that information is provided on when and where future consultation and public engagement will take place and how the views of current and former patients are being taken into consideration by the Peninsula Cancer Network, local Primary Care Trusts and clinicians.

The panel would also like to thank you for your attendance at the 13 October 2010 meeting and hopes that you will be able to attend a future meeting with the required information.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor Steven Ricketts Chair, Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Panel.