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David Burrowes MP
House of Commons
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04 SEP 2008

Dear David

Your Health Your Future – Safer Closer Better Barnet – referral of the decision by Barnet, Enfield and Haringey PCTs to redistribute services between Barnet, Chase Farm and North Middlesex Hospitals from Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Clinical Strategy Joint Scrutiny Committee

You will know that I asked the Independent Reconfiguration Panel (IRP) to review and provide advice in relation to the above referral.

I have now received the Panel's report and have decided to accept in full their recommendations.

I know that in formulating its advice, the Panel has considered a great deal of evidence from a wide range of contributors and its aim throughout has been to consider the needs of patients, public and staff to ensure safe, sustainable and accessible maternity services in East Sussex.

I enclose my reply to the Chair of East Sussex Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee who referred proposals to me on 31 March 2008.

The IRP's report will be published on the Panel's website at www.irpanel.org.uk on 4 September 2008.

*Yours
Alan*

ALAN JOHNSON