

Jim McMahon OBE MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Dr Carolyn Wilkins
Chief Executive
Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council
Level 3
Civic Centre
West Street
OL1 1UG

Our Ref: SM/WILK01005/01170481

07 December 2017

Dear Dr Wilkins

Please find enclosed a copy of a further reply I have received in response to my letter on your behalf. This is from the NHS Foundation Trust, and concerns the recent resolution on Adult Congenital Heart Disease Services.

I hope the reply is helpful. If not, or if you wish to respond to the letter, please do not hesitate to contact my office again.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim McMahon".

Jim McMahon OBE MP
Member of Parliament
Oldham West & Royton

Encl.

Serving the Communities of Chadderton, Royton and Oldham

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MD/MG

29th November, 2017

Jim McMahon OBE MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Dear Mr McMahon

Re: Adult Congenital Heart Disease Services

Thank you for your letter of 21 November in connection with recent developments in our adult congenital heart disease service.

You will be aware of the NHS England proposals to reconfigure congenital heart disease services in England. In the North West we have been advised that NHSE are 'minded to' relocate the current specialist surgical and complex cardiological service from Manchester to Liverpool. We understand NHSE are intending to make a final decision on the future configuration at their Board meeting on 30 November.

Unfortunately this national review, which has been ongoing since 2012, has caused uncertainty within our specialist workforce and has resulted in our only adult congenital surgeon resigning in July 2017. This coupled with significant long term sickness within our team of specialist cardiologists has meant we have not been able, safely, to offer this specialist service. You will appreciate that in this circumstance patient safety has been our overriding concern and unfortunately the nearest specialist centres are in Leeds and Newcastle. We have been working with their clinical teams and NHSE to ensure that we can continue to ensure patients in the North West can access specialist care. We are naturally disappointed that we have had to take this step but hope you will appreciate the rationale behind the decision.

As you highlight, this situation has also had a further impact on our congenital heart disease patients with Pulmonary Hypertension. Historically we have worked with the specialist centre in Sheffield in order that we are able to manage these patients locally and this arrangement has operated successfully over several years. Given the unavailability of our specialist cardiologists we have had to source additional support from Sheffield to continue to offer outpatient clinics locally and we hope to continue this into the future.

I trust this is a helpful response to your letter but please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J McMahon', with a small horizontal line at the end.

Sir Michael Deegan
Group Chief Executive

JIM McMAHON MP
WESTMINSTER OFFICE

6 DEC 2017

RECEIVED