

GREAT TORRINGTON TOWN COUNCIL



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Town Clerk : M A Tighe – DMS MBA

23rd October 2014

Cllr Richard Westlake
Chairman
Devon County Council Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee
12 Lower Avenue
Heavitree
Exeter EX1 2PR

Dear Cllr Westlake,

At a recent extraordinary meeting of the Great Torrington Town Council, members discussed the current review of the Healthcare Services for Great Torrington and passed the following motion:

"The NHS has a duty to consult with the Devon County Council Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee on proposals for the reconfiguration of local health services. A Scrutiny Committee can refer a decision to the Secretary of State if it is not satisfied with the NHS consultation or that the proposals are not in the best interests of patients. The Secretary of State can then ask the independent reconfiguration panel for its initial advice on that referral. Great Torrington Town Council therefore asks the Devon County Council Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee to refer these substantial changes to our health services in Great Torrington to the Secretary of State."

Indeed, members of the Town Council present at the meeting felt so strongly about this issue that they further agreed to write to the Secretary of State independently about their dissatisfaction with the consultation and proposals for the Healthcare Services in Great Torrington, in parallel with DCC Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee's decision to uphold their motion.

Councillors request that this matter be brought for discussion at the next meeting of the DCC Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee meeting scheduled for Monday 17th November 2014 under the agenda item "Urgent Matters for Attention". They have asked their representative Cllr Andy Boyd to put forward the motion on their behalf.

I look forward to hearing from you in the near future and hope you will confirm the DCC Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee's acceptance of this proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Richard Rumbold
Mayor of Great Torrington

Cc: Cllr Andy Boyd – DCC, Torridge District Council, Great Torrington TC
cc: Virginia Pearson – Director of Public Health for Devon, DCC