

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Department for Corporate Services

John Williams - Head of Legal & Democratic Services

Our ref: Telephone: 01702 215104
Your ref: fa Fax:
Date: 7th December 2015 E-mail: fionaabbott@southend.gov.uk
Contact Name: Fiona Abbott DX 2812 Southend

Ruth Ashmore
Specialist Commissioning Midlands and East (East of England) NHS England
West Wing Victoria House
Capital park
Fulbourn
Cambridgeshire
CB21 5XA

Dear Ms Ashmore,

South Essex PET-CT Service

I am writing to you regarding the above matter.

At the meeting held in October 2015, the People Scrutiny Committee, which acts as the health scrutiny committee at Southend, was advised about proposals to move the PET CT service to the existing fixed scanner at Southend Hospital (Minute 326 refers). The Committee resolved to support the proposals by NHS England to move the PET-CT service to the existing fixed scanner at Southend Hospital, as it offers the best long term benefits for patients and the future of the PET-CT service and to support the timescale for implementation.

At the meeting on 1st December 2015, the Committee was advised that NHS England have not taken a decision on the future location of the scanner and are undertaking some further clinical and stakeholder engagement. This is because the Thurrock and Essex Scrutiny Committees had taken a different position. A briefing paper provided by yourselves was also considered by the Committee.

A letter from clinicians at Southend Hospital dated 20th November 2015 which had been sent to NHS England on this matter was tabled at the meeting. This supported the position to activate the static PET CT scanner already based on the Southend Hospital site. I attach a further copy for your information.

At the meeting, the Committee noted the proposed engagement and that the consultation has been extended to allow for more effective and clinical engagement which will now conclude in January 2016 and urged NHS England to reach a decision on the location of the PET-CT scanner.

For the reasons discussed at the meeting, the Committee felt that the location should be Southend Hospital and resolved that an urgent letter be sent to NHS England regarding the location of the PET-CT scanner (Minute 445 refers).

The Committee feels that the clinical case is strong and urges the Regional Executive Team of NHS England to mobilise / activate the static PET-CT scanner which is already based on the Southend Hospital in the new year.

We look forward to hearing from you shortly.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fiona Abbott', written in a cursive style.

Fiona Abbott
Principal Committee Officer

Cc

Rob Tinlin, Chief Executive & Town Clerk, Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Simon Leftley, Corporate Director for People, Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Councillor Lesley Salter, Chairman People Scrutiny Committee, Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Councillor James Moyies, Executive Councillor, Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Graham Hughes, Scrutiny Officer, Essex County Council

Jenny Shade, Democratic Services Officer, Thurrock Council

Jessamy Kinghorn, Head Communications and Engagement, NHS England