



Department
of Health &
Social Care

*Edward Argar MP
Minister of State for Health*

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Tim Goodson
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10th January 2020

Dear Mr Goodson,

Referral to the Secretary of State under Regulation 23(9) of the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 of changes to healthcare services in Dorset proposed by Dorset CCG

Following a referral received from Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee on 5 November 2018, the Secretary of State asked the Independent Reconfiguration Panel (IRP) for its advice. The IRP has now reported to the Secretary of State.

After careful consideration, the IRP has concluded that, with some further action locally, the proposals should proceed, and the Secretary of State has accepted their advice. I have enclosed a copy of the IRP's advice.

The reconfiguration of services is a matter for the local NHS. It is right that these matters are addressed at a level where the local healthcare needs are best understood.

The Secretary of State would be grateful if you would report back to him in three months on progress.

I am copying this letter to Professor Sir Norman Williams, Chair of the IRP and I have written in similar terms to Councillor Bill Pipe.

Yours sincerely,

EDWARD ARGAR MP