

Our Ref:

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Date:

Dear Sir/Madam

Consultation on New Primary Care Trust Arrangements

This Council's Improvement Board has debated the proposals thoroughly, and its response to the consultation on revised PCT arrangements has been sent electronically. I should stress that this is subject to formal endorsement by a meeting of the full Council on 27 March, after the closing of the consultation period. If Council reaches an alternative conclusion at that meeting, I will inform you.

Concern was raised about the potential loss of a focus on the natural community that is the town of Northampton, and that the patient and community perspective must not be lost in the understandable drive for greater efficiency. We understand the assurances that have been given on these points, but are keen to see clear evidence of the prioritising of these vital issues in the forthcoming changes.

Northampton Borough Council looks forward to continuing and building on its relationships with local health service organisations, and to identifying and delivering together a programme of improvements which is of mutual benefit.

Yours faithfully

Councillor Tim Hadland