



Department
of Health

From the Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP
Secretary of State for Health

POC1_828183

Robert Brookbank
Chairman, Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
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- 6 JAN 2014

Dear Mr Brookbank,

Thank you for your letter of 5 December 2013 in relation to the procurement process for the future provider of the Minor Injuries Unit (MIU) at Faversham Cottage Hospital.

As you will appreciate, this is a locally led process and it would be inappropriate for me to intervene.

However, Departmental officials have contacted NHS England to enquire about the matter.

I am informed NHS Canterbury and Coastal Clinical Commission Group (CCG) has agreed with the current provider, ic24 (formerly known as South East Health Ltd), that it will continue to provide the service until the end of September 2014.

I understand this is to allow time for the CCG to carry out further consultation where necessary and to consider the future of the MIU alongside a review of community services across the Canterbury and Coastal area.

Following the review, the CCG confirms it will make a decision about whether or not to re-run the procurement process.

Finally, the CCG has assured officials it will closely engage with Kent County Council, Swale Borough Council, Hugh Robertson MP, local GPs and 'Friends of

the Faversham Cottage Hospital and Community Health Centres', during the review process.

I hope you have found this reply helpful and I would encourage you to continue to engage with the CCG during its review of community services.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeremy Hunt', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

JEREMY HUNT