Dear Councillor Wildey

I am writing to you as Chairman of the Medway Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee to provide an overview of the planned changes to the Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group’s (CCG) urgent care system, and to ask you how you might wish us to engage with the Committee going forwards.

We have also written to Stuart Jeffrey, Deputy Managing Director at Medway Clinical Commissioning Group, to seek his views regarding whether he feels our urgent care proposals will impact on either the Medway CCG urgent care system, or on the Medway population, so that we can consider this and take any necessary steps to address any issues during our upcoming public consultation.

Our data suggests that 2,100 DGS patients accessed Medway Maritime Hospital in 2018/19, equating to approximately 6 patients per day. In 2018/19, 2,300 Medway patients accessed Darent Valley Hospital, and 1,600 patients accessed Gravesham Community Hospital.

Urgent care services are currently located across three sites within Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley CCG: (i) a Walk-In Centre operates from Fleet Health Campus, (ii) a Minor Injuries Unit operates from Gravesham Community Hospital alongside a GP out-of-hours weekend base site, and (iii) a primary care streaming service that is co-located with Darent Valley Hospital Emergency Department and a GP out-of-hours main base site located within the hospital.
The CCG proposes to bring together walk-in centre and minor injury unit style services to form an UTC capable of treating minor illness and minor injury, and which is compliant with the 27 national standards for UTCs as outlined in the ‘Urgent Treatment Centres – Principles and Standards’ (July 2017). We are taking two possible site options for the future Urgent Treatment Centre forward to public consultation, (i) Gravesham Community Hospital, and (ii) Darent Valley Hospital.

We will commence a 12 week consultation on 12th August 2019 and hope to have a new UTC service established before autumn 2020.

Please could you confirm as soon as possible if you have any concerns regarding how these proposed changes might impact upon the Medway population, and how you wish Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley CCG to engage with the Committee going forwards?

If you have any queries regarding these proposals please contact me on [redacted] or via email at [redacted].

Yours sincerely

Gerrie Adler
Director of Strategic Transformation
Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley and Swale CCGs

Cc:

Gail Arnold  Deputy Managing Director, Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley and Swale CCGs
Stuart Jeffrey  Deputy Managing Director and Executive Lead for Urgent Care Strategy for Medway, North and West Kent CCGs
Angela Basoah  Head of Communications and Engagement, Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley and Swale CCGs