



# Health Initiative for Cornwall (HIC)

Chair: Mr J. McKenna, Essenjay, Canons Town, Hayle, Cornwall. TR27 6NB  
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Dear Mr Cooke,

24th March 2017

## Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly: Sustainability and Transformation Plan Draft Outline Business Case 21st October 2016

Thank you for your letter dated 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017 in response to ours dated 6<sup>th</sup> February 2017 addressed to Mr S Stevens, to whom we are also sending a copy of this reply. I have to confess that we were not aware of NHS England South SW and would welcome an outline of the role and responsibilities it has for the NHS in Cornwall.

However, returning to your response, which arrived on 15<sup>th</sup> March, the very day that HIC attended the Health & Adult Social Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee at County Hall in Truro to hear, that having read and discussed the Cornwall STP Outline Business Case, the Committee resolved that it was –

***“not fit for purpose and the engagement process was poor and ill judged”***

Whilst it is true that the words ‘social care’ appear in the OBC it is not in the context of detailed plans, which have now been produced separately by Cornwall Council, for both Adult Social Care and Children’s Health & Social Care. The question now is why have these plans not been included in the OBC?

From the start Cornwall Councillors were not impressed with the direction of travel being taken by the proposed STP and felt that the only way they could ensure a rapid improvement to the services they provide in respect of Adult Social Care & Children’s Health & Social Care, was to ensure neither formed any part of the on-going STP process. To emphasise this point Councillor Andrew Wallis Portfolio Holder for Young People, expressed concern that if they were included in the OBC, they would be overwhelmed by the plans for adult health, particularly around the care of the elderly and frail.

This re-action is as much a dis-appointment to HIC, as it must be to Mr Stevens and yourself. We are now faced with the **three** budgets – **three** systems & **three** organisations, we highlighted in our letter of 9<sup>th</sup> February.

At this point it may be helpful for you to see the Cornwall Council Offer for Adult Social Care as well as its One Vision – Transforming Children & Young People’s Services in Cornwall (copies enclosed).

It is quite clear that though Cornwall Council's logo appears on the frontispiece of the STP OBC, the Councillors have very little faith in its direction of travel. You will note their comment about the public engagement process being poor and ill-judged and HIC, who were present at several of these meetings, would agree with their comment. Indeed the local meeting in Penzance can only be described as "a shambolic-embarrassing-fiasco" and some feel we are grossly understating the meeting with that description.

The public in Cornwall are well aware of the exceedingly high salaries being paid to local health managers, yet we see totally contradictory statements being made in the OBC, such as Page 28 stating that only Devon & Barnstable will have an ED, with Treliske simply providing emergency services, yet on Page 51 it says that Treliske will have an ED. In addition the 14 MIUs proposed for closure in the STP was suddenly reduced to 10 in a recent RCHT Press Release. This does not give the impression of an organisation who knows what they are doing, nor indeed where they are heading.

Health Initiative Cornwall is bitterly dis-appointed with this approach which has resulted in where we are today. As an organisation we have always believed that there should be a single accountable care approach, as instanced in this extract from our paper 'The Truth About Health & Social Care Funding in Cornwall & IOS' dated May 2014. It stated that -

***"HIC believes that the National Health Service needs to become just that. If it's HEALTHCARE then it's a matter for a single unified health and social care body".***

The above statement on the way forward was put together by HIC in March 2014. We then read in April 2014, Mr Steven's first public speech on being appointed the new Chief Executive of NHS England, in which he said that the NHS was facing its biggest ever challenge and that only by "radically transforming services" will the NHS continue to thrive. He went on to say "Our traditional partitioning of health services - GPs, hospital outpatients, A&E departments, community nurses, emergency mental healthcare, out-of-hours units, ambulance services and so on - no longer makes much sense." In the light of this HIC included his statement in our report and added "*We believe he's got it 95% right, just add in Social Care, currently the responsibility of Local Authorities and he's 100% right*".

Yours sincerely

*Joe McKenna*

Joe McKenna, Chair.

HIC campaigns county wide for equitable access to services and funding of Health & Social Care in Cornwall.