



Malvern Hills Partnership  
C/o Council House, Avenue Road,  
Malvern, Worcs. WR14 3AF

Tel: 01684 862437 Fax: 01684 862398

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Mr M Ridley,  
Chief Executive,  
South Worcestershire PCT,  
Isaac Maddox House,  
Shrub Hill Road,  
Worcester  
WR4 9RW

8<sup>th</sup> March 2005

Dear Mr Ridley,

**Consultation on New Hospital and Primary Care Facilities for Malvern**

I am writing on behalf of the Vision 21 Malvern Hills Partnership, (the Local Strategic Partnership), with our views on the proposals for a new hospital and primary care facilities in Malvern.

One of the Priorities identified in the Malvern Hills Community Strategy 2003-2006 is "Easy access to good health and support services". During the public consultation, which led to the development of the Vision 21 Community Strategy it was clear to us that access to good health and support facilities featured as one of the publics' top priorities for improvement. We feel that the proposals set out in Option 4 of your consultation document will contribute significantly to meeting that Priority and the quality of life in the District generally. We note that the only site currently under consideration for a new hospital is Seaford Court, the Pickersleigh Road Depot site having been withdrawn by the District Council in the light of the strength of public feeling.

The Partnership would strongly support development of a new community hospital in Malvern to meet the needs of local people. We advocate the hospital being used as a base for enhanced and integrated partnership working between those organisations that have an interest in promoting health improvements and equality of access to services within Malvern and the surrounding area. It should be a cornerstone of service development targeted at enhancing the quality of life and health of the people of Malvern, particularly those within the locality who are the most deprived and vulnerable.

We would ask that the design and future operation of the facility take account of opportunities to facilitate local delivery of integrated health improvement services. This would include contributions from the private or voluntary sectors that could offer additional diagnostic or peripatetic services from the premises, perhaps with some revenue recovery.

To this end the Partnership would also welcome the delivery of a range of community health and palliative care services from the hospital, including a minor accident/injuries service, that could minimise the need for journeys to the Worcestershire Royal Hospital or those facilities even farther afield. Out of hours primary care services would be welcomed. Of course we would support an increase in the number of bed spaces at the new hospital, providing other areas of service do not suffer in consequence.



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We are also of the view that parking spaces at the hospital should be adequate but not dominate the overall site design. From the outset staff working at the hospital should be encouraged wherever possible to use transport other than the car and a 'green travel plan' should be developed. Use of bus and train services should be actively promoted. Also food and drink provided on site should be locally sourced, if possible, or procured from Fair Trade producers.

In relation to the new hospital we feel that the design of the building, whilst being sensitive to the setting within the Conservation Area, should be innovative in terms of style as well as function. Design should also reflect best practice in relation to community safety considerations. It should incorporate advanced technology to make it as self-sustaining as possible, for instance by the use of solar power and other renewable sources of energy. The building so far as possible should be constructed using renewable materials and should demonstrate high levels of thermal insulation.

Subject to any planning and land use considerations there may be an opportunity for development on the site of accommodation for key local workers that could be delivered in partnership with a local registered social landlord. We would encourage this consideration, subject to planning requirements.

We hope that you will take our comments into account in the final decision on the hospital and its building and operation. We also ask that the Vision 21 Malvern Hills Partnership is kept informed of developments on this project.

A copy of this letter has also been sent to the Malvern Hospital Consultation Office.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sue Adeney".

Sue Adeney,  
Chair of Vision 21 Strategic Board