

LANARKSHIRE LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

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Medical Secretary : Dr Colette Maule MBChB

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17 September 2007

Mr PK Corsar
Chairman Lanarkshire Health Board
14 Beckford Street
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Dear Mr Corsar

Monklands A & E Review

Following our meeting on 27th August 2007, after having opportunity to discuss and debate various scenarios suggested regarding 'Review of Monklands accident and Emergency Services' GP Sub-Committee would like to make following comments.

- 1) Any outcome must not result in increased workload for any Lanarkshire general practice because the resources are already overstretched and no spare capacity exists under current structures to cope with addition demand.
- 2) It is imperative that any alternative model selected must ensure equity of access to uniformly high standard of patient care throughout Lanarkshire...
- 3) Clinical Safety for the individuals requiring intensive support should not be compromised under any circumstances.
- 4) Any new model suggested should encourage recruitment and retention of clinical staff within Lanarkshire.
- 5) Separating planned from unplanned care could add efficiency and improve quality to clinical care.
- 6) Primary Care and especially GP Premises in particular, within Lanarkshire are inadequate and are in need of rejuvenation and requiring a significant

injection of cash. Any opportunity costs to primary care developments must be seriously weighed before committing any capital to Acute Services Redesign.

7) Any service redesign should take into account principles underlying 'Care in the Community' Kerr report. The disease burden and changing demography within Lanarkshire merits careful consideration and if we are to achieve a significant shift in the balance of care, primary care needs a substantial investment in staff, both practice and community in addition to premises.

8) Any service redesign proposals should be value for money and sustainable.

9) The Independent Scrutiny Panel should fully engage with clinical leadership before making any final recommendations.

10) Finally NHS Lanarkshire is ultimately responsible for quality and safety of the health care of its population and this should be given a higher importance to any political manifesto commitment.

The GP Subcommittee fully supported the previously recommended Picture of Health proposals and any new scenarios must be fully assessed and evaluated.

I hope Monklands A & E Review Team will take on board our comments before agreeing on any service redesign.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

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