

STEWART JACKSON MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

NHS Co-operation and Competition Panel

Sent via email to cases@ccpanel.gsi.gov.uk

6 October 2011

To whom it may concern,

Complaint from 3Well Medical (and others) to the NHS Co-operation and Competition Panel in respect of the Review of Primary and Urgent Care by NHS Peterborough

I understand that a private provider operating in my constituency (3Well Medical) has submitted a complaint in respect of the conduct of NHS Peterborough and the recent consultation regarding primary and urgent care in the Peterborough City Council area.

In addition to this, a "patients group" by the name of the "Patient Participation and Action Group" has also submitted a separate complaint with a series of allegations regarding the Primary Care Trust via your office, in a letter dated 1st September 2011.

I have read both in detail and with great care.

My purpose in writing is to make it quite clear that I do not support either of these complaints and believe that they are essentially without merit. Specifically, I do not believe that there have been any potential breaches of the Principles and Rules of Co-operation and Competition for the provision of NHS funded services and that the complaint should therefore be rejected.

For the record, I have been closely involved with the PCT's consultation process and believe it to be professional, thorough and comprehensive - and I consider that the complaint from 3Well Medical is vexatious, groundless and primarily motivated by concerns as to their commercial interests and their existing contractual relationships with the Primary Care Trust rather than solely the well being of patients; or indeed the imperative of long term strategic planning of primary and urgent care in my constituency and throughout the city of Peterborough.

Representing Peterborough

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I have taken the opportunity of being briefed by them and the Primary Care Trust Chairman and Chief Executive as well as Senior Managers and know that during the course of several months, as a result of feedback at public meetings and via correspondence, the Trust has sought to establish common ground with 3Well Medical and concerned patients as well as the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee of Peterborough City Council. I did believe that a compromise was possible, which would have amended the original "preferred" options outlined in the consultation documents.

Regrettably, the complaint has brought this chance of meaningful compromise and collaboration in a timely fashion to a close - at least temporarily.

I write also to alert you to the very likely impact of any delay in progressing the PCT's proposals, especially the financial ramifications and issues in respect of the use of capital resources for reconfiguration, for instance, if this complaint is not expedited with due alacrity; and the PCT is prevented from implementing a long term plan for primary and urgent care in Peterborough.

I have not wholly agreed with every aspect of the PCT's approach but like many others in the city have made my views clear in the appropriate way (after consulting constituents) but believe that undue delay will do nothing other than distract valuable management time and resources from tackling bigger issues such as the PCT's structural debt and progressing it's turnaround plan and in so doing, damage the prospects for the delivery of exemplary primary care in Peterborough now and in the future.

I should be grateful if you could pass on my remarks to the Panel at your convenience.

Yours sincerely

Stewart Jackson MP

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