

Our Ref: DS/aa/399  
Your Ref: HR/CW/14 075

17 December 2014

Mr N Weeks  
Chairman – Area east Committee  
Council Offices  
Churchfields  
Wincanton  
Somerset BA6 9AG

Wynford House  
Lufton Way  
Lufton  
Yeovil  
Somerset  
BA22 8HR

Tel: 01935 384000  
Fax: 01935 384079

[enquiries@somersetccg.nhs.uk](mailto:enquiries@somersetccg.nhs.uk)

Dear Mr Weeks

### **Provision of Minor Services in the Wincanton Area**

Thank you for your letter of 9 October 2014, regarding the provision of minor injuries services in the Wincanton area. I apologise that we have not provided the information requested in time for your meeting in December.

As you note, following the closure of the minor injuries unit at Wincanton Community Hospital, Wincanton Health Centre was commissioned to provide a Minor Injuries Community Enhanced Services with effect from 2 January 2014.

In 2013, Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SPFT) expressed a desire to terminate provision of the minor injuries service at Wincanton Community Hospital. With low levels of activity, SPFT reported challenges in staffing the service which consequently led to a number of unscheduled closures during 2013. To ensure continued provision of a minor injuries service in Wincanton, subsequent talks took place between the CCG and Wincanton Health Centre, resulting in agreement to provide the GP Minor Injuries Enhanced Service. The service commissioned from the GP practice actually increases access, as it is open for an hour and a half longer each day. This arrangement has previously been adopted in other parts of the county when a Minor Injury Unit service has not been viable.

As part of its urgent care workplan, the CCG has agreed to review the current provision of minor injury services in Somerset. This work will be informed by the Stage 2 Report from the Keogh Urgent and Emergency Care Review, which is expected to be published within the next few months. Details regarding the progress of the Keogh Urgent and Emergency Care Review can be found at NHS Choices website [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk) The CCG will need to consider the implication of this report as part of the service review.

The activity levels at Wincanton MIU were averaging ten patients per week in the two years prior to closure. The smallest of our seven remaining MIUs currently average 150 patients per week. Despite the growth in the local population at Wincanton this would not justify a dedicated service at the present time and appears unlikely to do so as part of the above review.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Slack". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**David Slack**  
**Managing Director**