



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Rt Hon Wes Streeting MP
Secretary of State for Health and Social Care

Amanda Pritchard
Chief Executive of NHS England

28th January 2025
GS00052

Sent by e-mail

Dear Wes and Amanda,

Re: Urgent Intervention Required to Secure Healthcare Provision in Whitehill and Bordon

I am writing to raise concerns about the ongoing delays in delivering healthcare facilities in Whitehill and Bordon. Despite repeated assurances, the Integrated Care Board (ICB) and the Whitehill and Bordon Regeneration Company (WBRC) have failed to make progress on either the promised Health Hub or the future of Chase Hospital.

The initial plans to renovate Chase Community Hospital were set aside in favour of a promised state-of-the-art Health Hub, yet persistent delays and funding shortfalls have left the community reliant on overstretched services further afield. With the town's population rapidly growing and housing targets doubling, the strain on infrastructure is now untenable. The disconnect between the vision for integrated care and the reality faced by residents must be addressed. While East Hampshire District Council has worked tirelessly to address funding challenges, the lack of action from the ICB and WBRC continues to undermine confidence in the project.

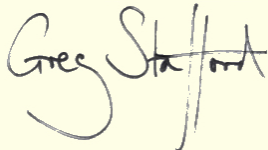
There is an ongoing debate within the community about whether Chase Hospital should be reinstated or a new Health Hub developed. However, my priority is ensuring that Whitehill and Bordon has adequate healthcare provision—both for its current population and the significant growth planned for the coming years. My view is that a brand new facility should be welcomed but I am not a clinical expert, and it is the clinicians of the ICB, who should be front and centre in explaining their rationale to the community. Whatever the final outcome, residents must have confidence that the town and surrounding areas, are properly and effectively served.

In December, I met with ICB executives to discuss the Health Hub, and while they committed to regular updates, no progress has been made since. They have also promised that services from the Chase would remain in place during the transition, but we are already seeing health services being removed, for example the collection of hearing aid batteries.

I urge the Department of Health and Social Care and NHS England to intervene and ensure that the ICB and WBRC provide a clear, deliverable plan for healthcare in Whitehill and Bordon. Residents need certainty and action, not more unfulfilled promises.

I look forward to your response.

With every good wish,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Stafford". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "G".

Gregory Stafford MP
Member of Parliament for Farnham and Bordon

CC

Cllr Nick Adams-King, Leader of Hampshire County Council
Cllr Richard Millard, Leader of East Hampshire District Council
Cllr Andy Tree, Deputy Leader of East Hampshire District Council