

By Email:

Councillor John Illingworth

25 November 2013

Dear Councillor Illingworth,

Thank you for meeting with me and my colleagues, Fran Hewitt and Kathryn Hilliam, on Friday afternoon.

In terms of Woodlands Surgery, we agreed that it was not appropriate for the Board to be involved in individual contract performance issues. I agreed to consider how we would provide you with a timely notification of NHS England's intention to terminate a GP contract, should the issue arise in future.

I have reviewed the papers put together by Stephen Courtney and have nothing further to add so do not propose submitting a separate paper. You will have seen today's coverage in the Yorkshire Evening Post which describes the GMC's action in limiting Dr Hunter's clinical practice, the outcome of the CQC inspection of the Surgery and the NHS England decision to terminate the contract. I am sure that Board members will understand the need to act in this case given the overwhelming evidence.

We agreed that it would be helpful for the Board members to understand more about the challenges facing primary care. We discussed whether this might take place in a "seminar" session given the complex issues involved. We also discussed whether this should take place within the next few months as a discussion of the issues or in early summer when the work across West Yorkshire on developing a strategic framework for primary care will have been completed and could then be shared with members. Please let me know how you would want this taken forward.

Yours sincerely



Alison Knowles
Commissioning Director
NHS England (West Yorkshire)

Cc: Steven Courtney, Principal Scrutiny Adviser