



St. James's Kidney Patients Association

Registered Charity Number 700981

An Association run by Patients for

Please reply to: **The Secretary**, St James KPA, FREEPOST NAT18200, Huddersfield, HD7 4LP
Tel:01484 640401 e-mail: paul@pgt67.eclipse.co.uk

Steven Courtney
Principal Scrutiny Adviser
1st Floor, West
Civic Hall
Leeds
LS1 1UR

20/07/2009

Dear Steven

The committee of the above association would like it to be known that we are in full support of our fellow KPA at the LGI where the promised building of a new Haemodialysis unit is concerned.

We appreciate that difficult decisions have to be made and that there is only so much funding available for capital investment. However to have gone as far as they have with the promise of the LGI dialysis unit, have the plans developed and raise everyones hopes and expectations only to have them quashed is incomprehensible to say the least.

The lives of renal patients from all over West Yorkshire depend on this unit being built. Following recent communication from the Trust, Lilian Black of the LGI KPA informed us that the Trust stipulates there is enough capacity. If that is the case then why are some patients dialysing twice weekly when they require dialysis three times a week? Why are patients from Halifax, Wakefield and Huddersfield travelling to Seacroft enduring countless hours sitting in traffic, often have their treatment cut short and then enduring the same journey home? It is comparable to an 8 hour day 3 times a week just to stay alive – where is the quality of life in that?

To say that there is enough capacity within the Trust when there are over 30 known patients, of a cohort of over 400, (IPST mins, Jan 09) who in the near future will more than likely require Renal Replacement Therapy is ludicrous. Where will these patients dialyse if the satellites are full?

Patrons: Lord Harewood, Christine Talbot

Chair: Lesley Britton 10 Adams Grove, Barwick rd, Leeds, LS15 8TT 'Phone 0113 264 5373
Secretary: Paul Taylor, 8 Moorcroft Ave, Golcar, Huddersfield, HD7 4QH 'Phone 01484 640401
Treasurer: Ian Cundell, 24 Greystones Close, Aberford, Leeds. LS25 3AR 'Phone 0113 2813478



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The Trust argues that the need to spend the funds allocated to this unit on a new water treatment plant at the St James's site. Whilst we agree that this is an urgent case, the Trust has known about it for sometime. However they chose not to use the temporary infrastructure already in place when T&U was vacated some 6 months ago. We are sure utilising this facility would have saved money if they had acted quickly enough.

Both of these projects are desperately required for the renal patients of West Yorkshire and to give the go ahead of one at the expense of the other is wholly unacceptable.

Yours sincerely

Paul Taylor
On behalf of St James's KPA

Cc Maggie Boyle, Chief Executive, LTHT
Cllr Mark Dobson, Chair Leeds Health Scrutiny Board

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