

The Mid Yorkshire Hospitals 

NHS Trust

Dewsbury & District Hospital

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DEPARTMENT OF DERMATOLOGY

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Awarded for excellence

GT/KLK

Dear Dr Bellfield

I have become aware of plans to shut the Dermatology Ward in the Brotherton Wing at Leeds General Infirmary via the articles in the Yorkshire Evening Post.

I am a Consultant in Dermatology at a District General Hospital (Dewsbury). We do not have any access within our own hospital to specialist dermatology beds. We can use beds on a general medical ward but this is often highly unsatisfactory for patients who have disfiguring skin disorders and who are at increased risk of either getting infections from other patients or indeed shedding Staph aureus which may be a risk to other patients.

Whilst all dermatologists will manage the majority of their patients as out-patients, there are times when it is absolutely essential to have access to specialist dermatology beds and particularly to the dermatology nursing expertise. This facility has been lost in DGHs and it would be a great disservice to dermatology patients if it were lost at your hospital which is our tertiary referral centre.

I hope that you will be able to maintain this essential service for dermatology patients.

Yours sincerely

Gayle Taylor
Consultant Dermatologist