



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

24 May 2018

Cathy Winfield  
Chief Officer  
Berkshire West CCG  
57-59 Bath Road  
Reading  
Berkshire  
RG30 2BA

Dear Cathy

**Priory Avenue Surgery, Caversham**

I am writing to raise serious concerns regarding the closure of Priory Avenue Surgery.

Priory Avenue Surgery is a much loved local doctors' surgery with around 6,000 patients in the Caversham area and as the local MP I am writing to raise a number of concerns about the closure of the surgery and to seek a meeting with you to discuss this important issue.

I have a number of points I would like to raise with yourself and your colleagues at the CCG which relate to concerns raised with me since the announcement and during the period in which the surgery's future has been in doubt, these are as follows:

**1. Maintaining the quality of crucial local NHS services**

I understand that the CCG has decided to close the surgery and I would like to understand more about this decision, and in particular how it could affect the provision of high quality, local GP services in Caversham.

**2. Provision of possible alternative services**

I am concerned about both the closure and the associated movement of patients to other nearby surgeries. For example, I would like to understand more about the work that has been done to prepare for this change and whether it would guarantee patients a place with an alternative local GP within Caversham or Emmer Green.

**3. The lack of consultation**

I also have serious concerns about the apparent lack of consultation before this significant step was taken by the CCG, given the importance of this decision, particularly for patients who are frequent users of local GP surgeries.

(Continued/2)

**4. Potential effect on other GP services**

I also want to raise the potential impact of the decision on other local surgeries which are also, like many around the country, having to manage with a growth in population and limited resources.

**5. Managing the transition**

The closure and the resulting process of patients registering with a new doctor may take some time and may cause some patients major difficulties. I would like to understand more about the planning undertaken by the CCG and how it proposes to manage this process.

As you may know, I have had a long-standing interest in the future of the surgery and have worked with residents to campaign for it to stay within the NHS family when there was a proposal for it to be taken over by a US-based medical company; I have also worked with local councillors on this issue. I am a keen supporter of our local NHS and want to see high quality services provided to all residents, I look forward to meeting with you to discuss this further.

Thank you for your help with the important issue.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matt Rodda". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M'.

Matt Rodda MP, Reading East