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28 OCT 2010

Dear Dee,

Thank you for your letter of 11 October concerning the White Paper 'Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS'. As you note, I have also received comments from the Mayor of London.

I note the particular challenges you highlight that London will have to tackle when moving towards the health care system set out in the White Paper and, in particular, the potential roles of the Mayor and GLA.

The consultation on the implementation of the proposals in the White Paper is now closed. We have had a very high number of responses, which we are currently considering. The Government response to the consultation, which will include further details of our proposals, will be published in due course.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Lansley'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'A'.

ANDREW LANSLEY CBE