

LONDON ASSEMBLY  
Health and Environment Committee

City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
More London  
London SE1 2AA  
Switchboard: 020 7983 4000  
Minicom: 020 7983 4458  
Web: [www.london.gov.uk](http://www.london.gov.uk)

**Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt**  
Secretary of State for Health  
Department of Health  
Richmond House  
79 Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2NS

**Our ref: HEC/CM**

**Date:** 19 December 2012

Dear Mr Hunt,

**South London Healthcare NHS Trust: Public Consultation on Draft Report by Trust  
Special Administrator**

The London Assembly's Health and Environment Committee submitted a response to the Trust Special Administrator last Thursday, following a discussion on the proposed changes to the provision of A&E service across London, which included the proposed closure of Lewisham A&E. I enclose a copy of the response for your consideration.

The Committee is concerned by a number of key aspects of the public consultation and felt it important to also bring them to your attention. The attached copy letter sets out our concerns in full, but briefly, we are concerned about:

- how the consultation has been conducted;
- the lack of rigour in the impact modelling;
- the robustness of the data used to estimate travel times; and,
- the lack of clarity on how the proposed changes will impact the London Ambulance Service.

While the Committee accept that changes to NHS services may be necessary in order to ensure that Londoners continue to receive high quality care both now and in the future, we have serious concerns as to whether the proposed changes will deliver what is intended. As a result a majority of Committee members oppose the proposal for the closure of Lewisham A&E.

We would urge you to seriously consider the concerns we raise in the attached letter and act accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

Murad Qureshi  
Chair of the Health and Environment Committee

**Direct telephone:** 020 7983 4000 **Fax:** 020 7983 4057 **Email:** [Carmen.Musonda@london.gov.uk](mailto:Carmen.Musonda@london.gov.uk)