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| |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Note from Saturday's public meeting**  ***At Saturday's meeting the organisers promised to circulate some 'cut and paste' text for supporters to send to KCC Cllrs calling on them to "refer back" the Stroke Service decision - as explained by the speakers.*   OPTION 1: refer back stroke plans:** ---- Dear Cllr xx  I am writing to you in the hope that you will vote to refer the Kent and Medway stroke plans back to the Secretary of State for Health. In your capacity as a voting councillor on the HOSC, you have a great responsibility to the general public to keep them safe and ensure that NHS services are not altered in a way that will do harm to any of Kent's residents.  Evidence from the USA shows that in areas where patients have to travel over 40 mins to get emergency health care, mortality rates increase by 21%. I implore you to refer the plan back and encourage your colleagues on the HOSC to do the same.  I believe that those who put these plans to us were not presenting us the whole truth. As an elected representative on the HOSC, you have a duty to scrutinise; I hope you will look beyond the biased briefings from the NHS managers who are behind the plan.   *[sign off with address and postcode if you are writing to your own councillor]*  ---  **OPTION 2: refer back whole STP (stroke, A&E and maternity cuts):**  Dear Cllr xxx  As a councillor on the HOSC it is within your power to refer the Kent and Medway Sustainability and Transformation plan back to the government via the Health Secretary, Matt Hancock.  I would strongly urge you to do so, as the plans involve cuts to services that are not proven to be beneficial and could endanger the public. So far we have seen that stroke units in three of Kent's seven District General Hospitals are to close, leaving residents with dangerously long journey times for a condition that is one of the biggest killers; a condition that we all know must be treated rapidly to avoid death or serious disability.  Thanet will be severely affected, and if the unit moves in a few years time to Canterbury, then the residents of Ashford will be severely affected too. The independent impact assessment states that there is a risk of capacity problems in the three stroke units that will remain, meaning that ALL AREAS are negatively affected.  A&E closures are also part of the plans, starting in East Kent where Ashford, Margate and Canterbury residents are all in fear, hoping that their hospital will not be the one to lose out. If we allow this to happen to Emergency Departments in east Kent, then the rest of Kent will be at risk of the same treatment at a later date. A reduction in the number of hospitals where consultant-led maternity care (essential if there are complications) is another component of the plans, as well as changes that will result in a great reduction of the amount of GP surgeries in Kent.  This decision is in your hands, the residents of Kent are looking to you to halt these dangerous plans.   *[sign off with address and postcode if you are writing to your own councillor]*  ***If you send an email, please copy in***[*saveournhshent@gmail.com*](mailto:saveournhshent@gmail.com) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | The KCC HOSC is the councils NHS scrutiny committee. These emails below are the current members of the KCC HOSC. They all have a vote to Refer Back should they choose to use it: [Sue.Chandler@kent.gov.uk](mailto:Sue.Chandler@kent.gov.uk) [Paul.Bartlett@kent.gov.uk](mailto:Paul.Bartlett@kent.gov.uk) [Pauline.Beresford@kent.gov.uk](mailto:Pauline.Beresford@kent.gov.uk) [andrew.bowles@kent.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.bowles@kent.gov.uk) [nick.chard@kent.gov.uk](mailto:nick.chard@kent.gov.uk) [nigel.collor@kent.gov.uk](mailto:nigel.collor@kent.gov.uk) [karen.constantine@kent.gov.uk](mailto:karen.constantine@kent.gov.uk) [dan.daley@kent.gov.uk](mailto:dan.daley@kent.gov.uk) [lesley.game@kent.gov.uk](mailto:lesley.game@kent.gov.uk) [sarah.hamilton@kent.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.hamilton@kent.gov.uk) [Peter.Lake@kent.gov.uk](mailto:Peter.Lake@kent.gov.uk) [ken.pugh@kent.gov.uk](mailto:ken.pugh@kent.gov.uk) [Ian.Thomas@kent.gov.uk](mailto:Ian.Thomas@kent.gov.uk) [joe.howes@canterbury.gov.uk](mailto:joe.howes@canterbury.gov.uk) [michael.lyons@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk](mailto:michael.lyons@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk) [derek.mortimer@maidstone.gov.uk](mailto:derek.mortimer@maidstone.gov.uk) [marilyn.peters@dartford.gov.uk](mailto:marilyn.peters@dartford.gov.uk) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | | |
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