

To: The Board of Directors, Gloucestershire Hospitals NHSFT

29<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Dear Mr Norton

In light of the recent announcements regarding proposed service reconfigurations in the Trust we would like to make our views on the future of clinical services in the Trust clear.

We support the principles of the New Clinical Model and the Centres of Excellence vision as presented to the SW Clinical Senate and the decision to endorse work to develop such a full emergency - elective split.

We believe the long term future of emergency and in-patient acute care is best delivered by an emergency care centre based at Gloucestershire Royal Hospital, where necessary, supported by those services based on the Cheltenham General site.

We believe the long term future of commissioned elective services is best secured by dedicated elective centres where possible in co-located, protected specialist Units delivering optimum care centred around the elective patient pathway. We believe Cheltenham General Hospital is ideally placed to develop and provide such major elective in-patient services to the Trust and the people of Gloucestershire. This requires and is best served by a fully staffed resident in-patient General Surgery service on the site specifically delivering GI surgery services. We believe this would provide the safest and best model to deliver:

- a **Centre for Digestive Diseases** providing specialist elective services in gastrointestinal medicine and surgery
- a **Centre for advanced surgery in pelvic and abdominal cancers** which should form a key part of the future of cancer services for the county and beyond. It would build on the co-ordinated pelvic cancer surgery services already at Cheltenham General.
- Elective specialist services based on the Cheltenham General site including the regional Oncology Centre, Vascular service, Urology centre and elective orthopaedic services.

We strongly believe this model provides the best distribution of clinical services for the entire population of Gloucestershire and beyond, which we serve and best secures the future of our Trust.

Yours sincerely,

The undersigned