

From Maria Caulfield MP Minister of State for Health

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Your Ref: BS22458

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Dr Ben Spencer MP By email to: <u>ben.spencer.mp@parliament.uk</u>

16 August 2022

Dear Ben,

Thank you for your correspondence of 25 May about rebuilding Weybridge Hospital. Please accept my sincere apologies for the delay in replying.

I know it was a matter of great concern for the local community when the hospital burnt down in 2017. Officials from the department, Surrey Heartlands Integrated Care Board (ICB), NHS England and NHS Property Services, are working closely together to agree plans and budgets to rebuild the hospital site.

The current proposals from the ICB for the Weybridge site and the timing of delivery of the scheme were discussed at a recent meeting.

Rebuilding the Weybridge Hospital is an absolute local priority and it has been suggested that a core building with an extension, subject to a further funding option, could be considered. Discussions are ongoing on how this facility will be funded with contributions from both national and local budgets.

We recognise the importance of all parties having clarity around the deliverables and availability of funding, to ensure that all parties are confident that the scheme will be delivered.

The parties have agreed to stay in close contact, to reconvene when further discussions have taken place in the ICB and to further consider other options. A follow-up meeting with all parties is being arranged for September, and I understand there is a planned public consultation meeting being arranged for later in the autumn.

I also understand you met with my predecessor on 5 July, and I hope this was helpful.

I hope the above demonstrates that all parties are fully engaged and are now seeking to finalise plans to progress the rebuild of the Weybridge Hospital site. I have asked officials to update me on the site's progress, and I will ensure you are kept informed of developments.

Yours sincerely,

MARIA CAULFIELD MP