Dear Victoria,

Referral of the permanent closure of consultant-led maternity services at the Horton General Hospital Formal referral under Regulation 23(9) of the Local Authority (Public Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013

Thank you for your letter of 21 December about Horton hospital.

I enclose a copy of the letter that I sent today to Lord Ribeiro, chairman of the Independent Reconfiguration Panel, asking them to look into this case.

When the IRP report back to me, I will consider their advice carefully before making a decision.

Yours sincerely,

Jeremy Hunt