



PRESS RELEASE

Keep the Horton General and the leaders of the two Banbury Councils submitted representations to the Health and Overview Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) re consultant led maternity. Today that body voted to refer the case to the Secretary of State for Health, Jeremy Hunt.

The Independent Review Panel (IRP) ruled in 2008 that the journey from Banbury to Oxford was too far for a woman in labour, and extremely unwell adults and children to undertake.

Jeremy Hunt has previously confirmed on BBC South Today that he would pass the case to the IRP if HOSC referred it to him.

'This is a very positive result for the 180,000 people of Banburyshire that we represent' said KTHG's Chairman, Keith Strangwood. 'Where it leaves OCCG's split consultation/Sustainability Transformation plans remains to be seen'.

The case was referred to Jeremy Hunt by HOSC on the grounds of 'failure to take adequate measures to recruit'. KTHG sent HOSC members a copy of an advert for consultants in Staffnurse.com along with the survey that they are running on KeeptheHortonGeneral.org which has over 250,000 words of condemnation and non acceptance of the Trust's proposals.

'KTHG would like to thank HOSC on behalf of everyone they represent' concluded Mr Strangwood.

ends

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