



## PRESS RELEASE

### Keep the Horton General went to the Royal Courts of Justice

On Wednesday 6 and Thursday 7 December representatives of Keep the Horton General attended the hearing at the Royal Courts of Justice into the legality of the split consultation process by the Oxford Clinical Commissioning Group regarding the downgrade of the Horton General Hospital.

The appointed Judge, Mr Justice Mostyn, made several poignant comments throughout the hearing (the quotes are from handwritten notes and may not be verbatim.)

‘You can’t present people with a fait accompli – that is obvious’

‘At the time the consultation was issued there was a fear there might be inter dependencies affected. It was reasonable to think that’.

‘If you were an art critic and were asked to assess a painting on one corner would that be fair?’

Interestingly, the Council’s barrister, picked up on that in his final address.

‘Turn that around – if you can see all of the picture but one corner – but the bit you cannot see is Picasso’s signature – that makes a massive difference.’

As he left the court Mr Justice Mostyn confirmed that there would be a freeze on any future plans for the Horton until he has made his decision.

Apart from KTHG, the court bulged with Councillors, representatives from Unison/the Consultation Institute/Meridian TV/North Devon campaign group.

‘I am delighted that so many people have got behind our campaign. We await the Judge’s ruling with great anticipation’ said KTHG chairman, Keith Strangwood.

ends

11 December 2017

---

For more details contact Chairman:

Keith Strangwood tel: 077405 99736 email: nkarnia@aol.com

[www.keepthehortongeneral.org](http://www.keepthehortongeneral.org)