

General Paediatric Consultant with an interest in Gastroenterology  
Countess of Chester Hospital NHS Foundation Trust  
Secretary Judith Baker 01

I&S

---

**From:** Jayaram Ravi (COUNTRESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST)

**Sent:** 05 July 2016 19:02

**To:** Brearey Stephen (COUNTRESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST); Gibbs John (COUNTRESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST); **Doctor V** (COUNTRESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST); **Doctor ZA** (COUNTRESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST); Holt Susie (COUNTRESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST); Saladi Murthy (COUNTRESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST); Powell Eirian Lloyd (COUNTRESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST)

**Subject:** RE: Update re comms lines and position

Thoughts from me

Re the strategy, main Q from me is the death rate *really* within the realms of expected statistical variation? Or is this wishful thinking?

Re the letter, I am uncomfortable with the complete absence of any reasons for downgrading. How does this sit with being open and honest and duty of candour?

The second sentence should reflect (in my opinion) the fact that this is temporary not permanent (which also means some kind of openness about why has to be given)

Re: alternative arrangements, although Wirral is the most likely alternative NNU, it could for those babies between 28-32 weeks be any other unit in the region bar Macclesfield depending on cot availability (or even outside Cheshire/Merseyside) and it should be explicit that, although Wirral is most likely, it will not necessarily be there.

I appreciate that we don't want to cause alarm but people are not daft and will immediately ask why; the absence of any reasons given makes it look like we are trying to hide something.

Just my subjective thoughts

Ravi

---

**From:** Brearey Stephen (COUNTRESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST)

**Sent:** 05 July 2016 18:23

**To:** Jayaram Ravi (COUNTRESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST); Gibbs John (COUNTRESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST); **Doctor V** (COUNTRESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST); **Doctor ZA** (COUNTRESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST); Holt Susie (COUNTRESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST); Saladi Murthy (COUNTRESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST); Powell Eirian Lloyd (COUNTRESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST)

**Subject:** FW: Update re comms lines and position

I thought it would be best to forward these documents so you are aware of the communication strategy regarding the neonatal unit plans.

You will be able to see that the parent letter has morphed a little!

I'll be speaking to Gill Galt in the morning so if you have any amendments you can suggest please let me know ASAP.

Steve

---

**From:** Galt Gill (COUNTRESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST)

**Sent:** 05 July 2016 16:41

INQ0002694\_0009