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Our Ref: JC/CAT

12 January 2010

Cllr Gerald Dakin  
Chair - Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee  
The Shirehall  
Abbey Foregate  
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Cllr Derek White  
Chair – Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee  
Telford and Wrekin Council  
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Dear Gerald and Derek

### **Developing Health and Health Care: A Strategy for Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin**

We are writing to update you on progress with our work on Developing Health and Health Care. This information will be reported to our public Board meetings, the first of which is NHS Telford and Wrekin on 12 January 2010 and thought it would be helpful to advise you directly of the latest position.

The Chairmen and CEOs of Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital, Shropshire County PCT and NHS Telford & Wrekin met with the Chairman and CEO of NHS West Midlands (West Midlands SHA) in December 2009 to update the SHA in relation to the Health and Healthcare Strategy for Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin.

The CEO of the SHA has advised that, as with all public services, the economic context in which the work is taking place has changed significantly. Furthermore that:

- The partners in the local health economy should work on the basis of nil or minimal capital resources in the short and medium term.
- The partners should review their plans in the light of this.

- Clear plans for the challenged specialties of inpatient paediatrics, vascular surgery and emergency surgery need to be produced rapidly, risk assessed robustly tested and jointly agreed.
- The partners must revisit the 2020 proposals in the context of a climate where capital funding will be severely constrained or unavailable. To prepare a timeline and a process for this review.

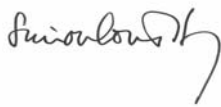
The three organisations are working closely together to undertake this work and will have further discussions with the SHA over the coming months.

This programme of work will need to have strong clinical input, and strong clinical testing, together with continuing public engagement in the process. We are committed to doing so.

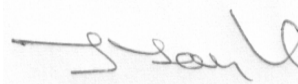
Yours sincerely



**Jo Chambers**  
**Chief Executive**



**Simon Conolly**  
**Chief Executive**



**Tom Taylor**  
**Chief Executive**

cc Mr Keith Barrow, Leader – Shropshire Council  
Mr Andrew Eade, Leader – Telford & Wrekin Council