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Lynne Stagg  
Chair Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel  
Portsmouth City Council  
Civic Offices  
Guildhall Square  
Portsmouth PO1 2AL

*Richmond House  
79 Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2NS*

*Tel: 020 7210 3000  
mb-sofs@dh.gsi.gov.uk*

25 OCT 2010

*Dear Ms. Stagg,*

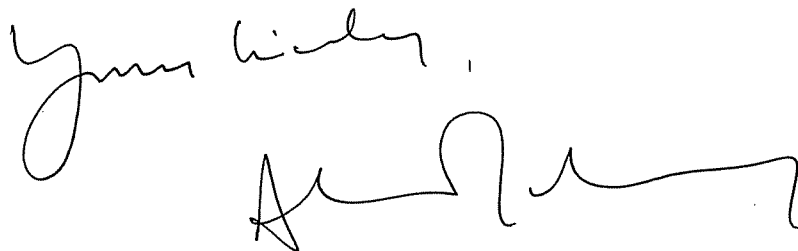
**REFERRAL FROM PORTSMOUTH CITY COUNCIL'S HEALTH  
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL – CLOSURE OF WARD G5 END OF  
LIFE CARE WARD AT QUEEN ALEXANDRA HOSPITAL NHS TRUST  
PORTSMOUTH**

Thank you for your letter of 6 October 2010 formally referring proposals regarding the closure of the G5 end of life care ward at Queen Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust in Portsmouth.

I am today writing to the Independent Reconfiguration Panel (IRP) asking them to undertake an initial review on your referral. Should the IRP advise that a full review is necessary, you will have the chance to present your case to them in full.

I have asked the IRP to report to me no later than 30 November 2010.

I am copying this letter to Dr Peter Barrett, Chair of the IRP and to Andrea Young, Chief Executive of NHS South Central.

*Yours sincerely,*  


**ANDREW LANSLEY CBE**