



Department  
of Health

From the Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP  
Secretary of State for Health

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- 1 AUG 2017

*Dear Mr. Smith,*

**RECONFIGURATION -: Referral of the temporary closure of consultant-led maternity services at the Horton General Hospital Formal referral under Regulation 23(9) of the Local Authority (Public Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013**

In response to the letter from the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee of 14th February 2017 referring to me the temporary closure of consultant-led maternity services at Horton General Hospital, I am today writing to the Independent Reconfiguration Panel (IRP) asking them to undertake an initial assessment of your referral.

I have asked the Panel to report to me no later than Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September.

I am copying this letter to The Lord Ribeiro, Chair of the IRP.

I have written in similar terms to the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

*Yours sincerely*

*Jeremy Hunt*

**JEREMY HUNT**