



Department
of Health &
Social Care

*From Karin Smyth MP
Minister of State for Health*

*39 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0EU*

PO-1554798

Mr Jonathan Morgan
Chairman
Leicester County Council
By email to: jonathan.morgan@leics.gov.uk

13 January 2025

Dear Mr Morgan,

Thank you for your correspondence of 4 December co-signed by Councillor K Pickering about the New Hospital Programme (NHP).

I appreciate your concerns.

It is clear that the previous Government's plan to deliver 40 new hospitals by 2030 was not achievable, and as we set out in July, the NHP only had £3.7 billion of funding confirmed up to the end of the 2024/25 financial year.

The Government is committed to delivering the NHP, and the vital infrastructure it provides for staff and patients, but will put forward a realistic, affordable and deliverable plan.

The Terms of Reference for the review into the NHP were published on 20 September and can be read at www.gov.uk/government/publications/new-hospital-programme-review-terms-of-reference. As confirmed by the publication, the Leicester Royal Infirmary and Glenfield Hospital scheme is in scope of the review.

The review has fed into decisions that were taken in the budget, and as set out by the Chancellor on 30 October, we will publish the outcome of the review into the NHP in due course, alongside the new delivery schedule for the programme. This will allow patients, trusts and the local communities to understand when their much-needed new hospital will be delivered.

In the meantime, we will continue to support the University Hospitals Leicester NHS Trust with the development of their new hospital scheme. The Trust are currently developing their Strategic Outline Case (SOC). As per the business case process set out in HM Treasury Green Book, following the review and approval of their SOC, the next step would be the development, review and agreement of the Outline and Full Business Cases. Through this process the final funding amount is determined, as is usual for large infrastructure projects. Up to the end of the 2023/24 financial year, the NHS trust have received £10.4 million in funding for their NHP scheme.

I hope this reply is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Karin Smyth

KARIN SMYTH