

COUNTY COUNCIL – 5 DECEMBER 2012

POSITION STATEMENT BY THE LEAD MEMBER FOR HEALTH

The Secretary of State for Health, The Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP, has asked the Independent Reconfiguration Panel (IRP) to carry out a review of the decision to move Children's Congenital Heart Surgery from Glenfield to Birmingham following referrals from the Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire and the Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland Health and Overview Scrutiny Committee.

The IRP, an independent expert panel on NHS service change, is undertaking a review to consider whether the Safe and Sustainable proposals for children's congenital heart services will enable the provision of safe, sustainable and accessible services.

The Panel will make recommendations to the Health Secretary by 28 February 2013. The final decision on changes to services will be made by the Health Secretary.

The Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland Health and Overview Scrutiny Committee has met with the Panel and submitted a robust case for a review of the decision and the retention of children's congenital heart services at the Glenfield Hospital. May I take this opportunity to thank Ruth Camamile and Alan Bailey who, together with the scrutiny officers, have been instrumental in getting the decision reviewed.

As part of the review, the IRP have said that they would like to hear from all interested parties and would welcome comments which can be made by email at: info@irpanel.org.uk or by writing to the IRP at: 6th Floor, 157-197 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SP.