

Statement to be read at LCC Health Scrutiny Committee – 24.5.16

I, along with my Labour colleagues are rightly proud of our NHS however, the current situation at Lancashire Teaching Hospitals is causing much concern amongst the people of Chorley, South Ribble and in my constituency of Preston.

I am dismayed at the situation and have communicated with Lancashire Teaching Hospitals about my concerns, particularly around the impact of the closure of A&E at Chorley on the Royal Preston Hospital. Chief Executive, Karen Partington has responded outlining the effect on RPH and the measures put in place to deal with the additional patients being treated there.

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals are keeping stakeholders informed on a regular basis about the actions being undertaken to ensure that Chorley is re-opened and this has raised important questions around the allocation of doctors in training throughout the NHS. I too have written to Ian Cummings, Chief Executive of Health Education England and Graham Urwin, Director of Commissioning Operations NHS England to push for support in finding suitable doctors in training for Lancashire Teaching Hospitals at this worrying time.

I hope very much that Lancashire Teaching Hospitals are doing everything in their power to provide services and treatment to maintain the health and wellbeing of the people of Lancashire; and to recruit the staff needed to re-open Chorley A&E as a matter of urgency.

Mark Hendrick
Member of Parliament for Preston