

Consultant 17

5 February 2014

Dear Mr Witcomb,

I am a Consultant Anaesthetist at the Lister Hospital and am aware of the recent Competition Commission proposals, and I wanted to talk about the particular HCA hospital I work in.

In my long experience (over twenty years) the Lister Hospital goes to great lengths to maintain high quality for patients. All the private hospitals are cutting back but the Lister closes wards at weekends and pools available staff resources in wards that stay open to provide good cover and patient care.

The hospital management listens favourably to staff requests and opinions are sought at all levels and staff are heard.

The anaesthetic ODPs with whom I work closely are fantastic and staff turnover is very low which speaks for itself. A good Operating Department Practitioner makes an anaesthetist's life so much easier and I have worked with two for over twenty years. I really feel at home at the Lister and wouldn't work anywhere else now.

I hope you will take this dedication to high standards into account in your continuing deliberations about the future status of HCA.