

## **Consultant 26**

4 February 2014

Dear Mr Witcomb,

### **Re: Proposals made on the forced divestment of London Bridge Hospital**

I am writing to you regarding your recently published recommendations with respect to London Bridge Hospital. I am a Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon who practises at the London Bridge Hospital. I also practise in the NHS and at other private hospitals (owned by other groups).

I am writing in support of the retention of London Bridge Hospital by HCA. I have been privileged to work at this hospital for nearly six years and I can honestly and openly say that this is a hospital of the highest standards, whose paramount priority is patient care and quality.

With respect to my own practice there are four techniques and innovations which I have developed in my sub-speciality (shoulder and upper limb surgery). This has led to significant media coverage and the advancement of patient care and outcomes in my field. Each of these were only possible because of the support I was given by HCA at London Bridge Hospital.

With regards to private practice incentives for consultants I can openly say that HCA at London Bridge Hospital has been absolutely straight and fair to me in my practice; over these five years I have not had a single incentive or inducement to work here but have only been given support to allow my practice to grow (in a completely equal and fair manner to each and every one of my colleagues).

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.