



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

16 December 2014

THE PRIME MINISTER

*Dear Bill,*

At Prime Minister's Questions on Wednesday 3 December you asked about bed numbers at Hereford Hospital which is run by Wye Valley NHS Trust.

While the Trust was put into special measures following the Care Quality Commission's recommendation in October, its report also praised "dedicated and committed staff who would go above and beyond the call of duty for patients". The Trust will continue to receive the support it needs to make the required improvements to services.

I have been informed that the Chief Executive of Wye Valley NHS Trust has commissioned a review of the estates and facilities which includes looking at increasing capacity at Hereford County Hospital. Its findings and recommendations will be considered by the Trust Development Authority.

Since the Trust was placed into special measures in October, I understand that you have discussed these matters with Richard Beekan, the Trust's Chief Executive, and I would encourage you to continue those conversations. However, if you would find it helpful, Dr Daniel Poulter would be happy to meet you and local NHS representatives to discuss this matter further, or to visit the hospital when diary commitments allow.

*With all good wishes,*

*Yours,*

*Daniel*

Mr Bill Wiggin MP