



Tim Way

Chairman

Westcott Village Forum

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SENT AS AN EMAIL ATTACHMENT

**Response to the email dated Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2026 timed at 12.57 sent by Mr Mark Eshelby to MVDC as a formal representation in respect of the emerging WNDP**

**Subject: Westcott NDP – Representation Riverbank Surgery**

5<sup>th</sup> May 2026

To: Mr Mark Eshelby, Nova Latchmere Ltd.

cc WNDP Forum

Dear Mr Eshelby,

Given that you have felt unable to meet me (representing Westcott Village Forum) and Paul Goddard (representing the WVA), to discuss the points and comments you have raised in your response to MVDC about the emerging WNDP - for which you have confirmed your reasons - I have decided to address these points and comments in writing for clarity, and for the record.

Please note that your Representation is now available on the WVA website where all documentation relating to the update of the WNDP is hosted. This follows the instruction from MVDC to place it there to ensure full transparency.

I acknowledge the points you make by way of factual background, and I am very pleased that your client recognises the importance of local healthcare provision and does not object in principle to the appropriate safeguarding of valued community facilities. However, I must respond to a number of other points you make in relation to the Submission Draft WNDP Plan being examined by the Inspector

1. Riverbank Surgery is only listed in Policy 7 of the Draft Plan. It is already listed in Policy 7 in the current WNDP 2017-2026. In both plans, Policy 7 relates to the enhancement of community facilities. As for the Draft Plan, continuing to include Riverbank Surgery reflects the wishes of the community, underscored by the value attached to the provision of a surgery in Resident responses to survey questionnaires conducted in 2025. The suggestion that the Village Forum has been unduly influenced by the current occupier is categorically not correct. DMP did not make any representation to the Draft Plan, however Rushmon Homes did.

2. As part of the WNDP consultation process, Westcott Village Forum (WVF) wrote to a considerable number of consultees including significant landowners in the Village.

We were unable to send a specific letter to the registered owner of Riverbank Surgery – Standard Life – as no address is provided on the Land Registry record.

Riverbank Surgery was used however, as one of three key village locations at which all relevant consultation documents were available on display and for residents to take away.

We can also point to a fully documented, extensive communication and consultation process which is available in the Consultation Statements on the WNDP website and was submitted to MVDC to be part of the Inspector's examination.

3. The Draft Plan does not rely on speculative future provision. We believe the most recent plans were shared by Rushmon Homes with many others, including the residents of Rokefield, MVDC and the WVA. These Plans include the provision of a new surgery but the plans are with Rushmon Homes only and have not been commented on formally by either the Village Forum or the WVA, or been relied upon in any way. We understand that earlier versions of these plans were shared and discussed with Tom Guilder.

To conclude with your requested modifications, my comments are

- 1) Riverbank Surgery is only subject to safeguarding under Policy 7 – as it is in the current plan - and has been designed to safeguard the future provision of medical services in the village.
- 2) We contend that this policy is being fairly and consistently applied.
- 3) The matter of a lease is entirely between the current occupier, Standard Life, and the beneficiary/ies of the Pension plan. The WVA and Village Forum have no say or influence whatsoever in the matter.
- 4) The policy does not rely on speculative future provision. It stands as it is written.

Please note that we will be putting a copy of this correspondence on the WVA website.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T E Way', with a large, stylized flourish above the name.

T E Way Chairman, Westcott Village Forum