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26 August 2026

Dear Planning Policy Team,

Riverbank Surgery, Westcott – Representation 69

NHS Surrey and Sussex Integrated Care Board (ICB) submitted Representation 69 in response to the focused consultation regarding Policy WNDP7 and Riverbank Surgery.
We wish to clarify that the ICB's representation was provided from a healthcare commissioning perspective, reflecting the importance of maintaining accessible primary care services for the population of Westcott and confirm our position remains the same.

The ICB's interest is the continuity and accessibility of healthcare services rather than the ownership of, or legal interests in, any particular property. Whilst primary care services are currently delivered from Riverbank Surgery, the ICB recognises that healthcare estate solutions may evolve over time and could include reprovision, relocation or alternative service models, where supported through the appropriate commissioning, estates and governance processes.

The existence of potential future alternatives does not diminish the importance of current service provision or the need to consider continuity of care for the local population when assessing proposals that may affect those services.

The ICB is not the decision-maker in relation to planning policy, planning applications, development rights, private property ownership, landlord and tenant matters, or other legal matters relating to the premises. Those matters fall within the remit of the relevant property owners, planning authorities and statutory processes. The ICB's role is limited to providing a healthcare commissioning perspective regarding service provision and accessibility.

This clarification is intended to assist understanding of the scope and purpose of Representation 69 and should be read alongside the original submission.

Kind regards,

Vicky Stobbart – Deputy Chief Commissioning Officer, Neighbourhood Health and Partnerships *(on behalf of Amy Galea - Chief Commissioning Officer, Neighbourhood Health and Partnerships)*
NHS Surrey and Sussex