



**Oxfordshire
Clinical Commissioning Group**

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Dear Rosalind

BOB STP Stakeholder Engagement

Thank you for your letter addressed to David Smith and dated 29th November 2017, sent on behalf of the four Healthwatch organisations within the BOB STP footprint, in which you express concerns about stakeholder engagement in the STP. David has asked me to respond on his behalf.

The first stakeholder forum came together on 19th January 2017 when BOB STP leaders and stakeholders met to review the BOB STP plan. There was good attendance from a very wide group of organisations and individuals with over 100 people present at the event. The event was positively received although, as the STP was still in its early days of forming, I think it is fair to say that different views were expressed as to how the interface with stakeholders should be managed from then on.

The BOB STP is one of the largest non-urban STPs in England, with three very clear place-based systems - Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West - that are larger than some STPs elsewhere in England. Following the January 2017 event, a view was taken that there would be a continued focus on locally-led stakeholder management rather than STP-wide engagement per se i.e. a devolved arrangement, as it is not sensible or practical to run all communications and engagement out of a BOB 'office'. This was reinforced with the creation of Buckinghamshire and Berkshire West as first wave Accountable Care Systems and the fact that Oxfordshire was focussing on delivering the first phase of its public consultation.

I know that Healthwatch colleagues bring rich and valuable insight into service users' experience of their treatment and care across the STP and have a strong presence in the three places. It is good to see a number of initiatives in train, such as the proposal for a Healthwatch Liaison Officer in Berkshire West as part of the development of the Accountable Care System and the Bucks ACS "big tent" stakeholder event that took place last month

It is our intention to run the wider STP stakeholder forum as an event on an annual basis but it would seem sensible to await the arrival of the new STP Executive Lead, Fiona Wise, so that she can play a key role in setting its purpose and design. I am sure that Fiona will wish to meet with you when she joins the partnership in early March to discuss her thoughts on how the stakeholder engagement forum could be taken forward and to listen to your views.

I note your disappointment that wider stakeholders were not involved in the process for the STP Lead appointment. A gathering was being planned but it was not able to proceed due to the availability of one of the two candidates.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A.E. Donkin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Ann E Donkin
BOB STP Programme Director