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Dr Charlotte Benjamin Chair of Barnet Clinical Commissioning Group BY EMAIL Barnet Labour LONDON ASSEMBLY LABOUR





Andrew Dismore AM Cllr Anne Clarke

Dear Dr Benjamin,

Date: 15 February 2019

## Re: Consultation on Ravenscroft Medical Centre (RMC), London NW11 8BB

We are writing formally in our capacities as London Assembly Member for Barnet and Camden and Councillor for Childs Hill ward on Barnet Council regarding your proposal to relocate the Ravenscroft Medical Centre (RMC), London NW11 8BB, to Finchley Memorial Hospital (FMH).

Uprooting a well-established local medical centre in the south of the borough to a new location several miles away in the east of the borough would be deeply unsatisfactory for the existing patients, who may have to take several buses and over half an hour to get to their GP. The RMC serves the Golders Green community well and should not be moved.

The south of the borough is due to see a large expansion in population, and with the potential scheme to close down the Cricklewood walk-in surgery, an already poorly handled decision is likely to become worse in terms of GP and health access for Cricklewood and Golders Green.

Whilst we are pleased to see Barnet CCG's intent to utilise the ground floor practitioners' space at FMH, We do not believe this is the best way to go about it. The Finchley area has lost a number of local medical practices in recent years, and is underprovisioned as a result. New services opening at FMH should be new services, not redeployed from elsewhere. It makes little sense managing a problem in one area by creating a crisis somewhere else.

We therefore hope you will not go ahead with this proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Dismore AM London Assembly Member

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**Cllr Anne Clarke** Childs Hill Ward

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