

Chair,

Torrington Cares Oversight Group

Northern Locality CCG Board

18th July, 2014

Dear Chair,

I am writing on behalf of the *Torrington Cares Oversight Group* to update you on the current situation with regard to our ability to make recommendation(s) to your Board, on the recently completed six month '*Review of the Torrington Test of Change*' report - and supplementary documentation.

You will be aware that the Oversight Group met – at Yealm House - on the afternoon of Tuesday 15th July to consider the latest iteration. It should be noted that this was the earliest opportunity for the group to meet, subsequent to the completion and availability of the latest draft of the report; containing the information for the complete six months of the *Test of Change*

On Tuesday there was a robust interrogation of the data and associated text. This session identified the need for some checks/revision/ addition of data - and also clarification in some areas. A number of the necessary revisions were considered relatively minor - where changes could be easily and speedily accommodated. Furthermore in some areas it was accepted that work was identified 'in progress' and this was considered acceptable. However certain areas lacked data - or required follow up - that the group considered essential before the document could be seen to be complete (eg: social care information).

As a result of all these observations it was felt that the only recommendation that the Oversight group could make at this stage was:

“ ... that the documentation be completed and reviewed by the Oversight Group before any further recommendations are proposed”

This has created a dilemma where the Oversight Group finds itself unable to make an overall response on the report to your Board meeting by early next week, because of the time constraints.

Our members obviously need adequate time in order to:

- receive a suitably modified and updated text ;
- properly consider and confirm that all requested changes, clarifications and additions had been made (and feed this back);
- determine any further response or recommendation to be addressed to both the CCG Northern Locality and North Devon Hospital Trust

I hope that you and your board members appreciate our dilemma . Important decisions for Torrington and its environs, rest significantly on the veracity of this document. We would be failing our local population – and our Oversight role - if we aren't able to consider and respond to the report with due diligence.

We obviously retain our right to present any further recommendation (s), regarding the review, to your Board - and the Governing Body - regardless of any decision you might take at your forthcoming meeting.

Yours sincerely,

Dr David McLellan PhD, MSc

Chair, Torrington Community Cares Oversight Group