

**Cllr Jane Hanna OBE**

Chair, Health Overview and  
Scrutiny Committee

**03 January 2023**

Dear OUH Colleagues

**Re: Temporarily Closed Midwifery Led Units**

First of all, please can I give my sincere thanks on behalf of the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) for your continued engagement in respect of maternity services in Oxfordshire.

I'm writing to inform you as to the request of the HOSC following a resolution made at its Committee meeting on 24 November 2022.

It was agreed that the Committee requests the completion of the substantial change toolkit from the relevant NHS trusts in relation to the temporarily closed services in Oxfordshire, including the temporarily closed MLUs in Oxfordshire and the bedded units at Wantage Community Hospital. This is with the objective to better understand the status of these services; and will allow members of the Committee to establish whether the service variations constitute a substantial change.

To this effect, please may I request you complete the form appended to this letter by 31 January 2023 at the latest; in respect of the temporarily closed MLUs in Oxfordshire. In relation to the form, it is appreciated that there has already been ongoing dialogue with the HOSC in respect of maternity.

May I also request a short report, with the purpose of updating as to the status of the temporarily closed MLUs; and your attendance at the 9 February 2022 HOSC meeting in order to introduce and answer any questions in respect of your report.

Please can I ask you to outline in the report, the process for determining which MLUs would be closed to intrapartum care during periods of midwife unavailability and times of insufficient on-call cover.

Yours sincerely



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