

PAPER 3

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2nd February 2021 By email

Ms K Rayns
University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust

Dear Ms Rayns

Healthwatch Rutland would be grateful if the following question could be presented to the UHL Board meeting on 4th February 2021:

Paper E2 of the afternoon UHL board meeting on 4th February 2021 provides an update about the work of Go Travel Solutions, in collaboration with stakeholders, to provide sustainable travel options for patients, their families and staff to reach the three Leicester Hospitals.

We would like the board to consider the following:

Travel difficulties in accessing health care are consistently highlighted by Rutland residents in patient experience research. Healthwatch Rutland were therefore pleased to be invited to attend Building Better Hospitals Travel Planning Steering Group meetings, chaired by Go Travel Solutions (GTS). The monthly meetings from Oct 20 to Jan 21 concentrated on travel planning to provide sustainable travel within and around the city. HWR raised several times, that the travel action planning offered little consideration of how access into the developing city travel network could be made easier, quicker and more sustainable for people living in outer rural areas. This is disappointing.

Healthwatch Rutland therefore asks:

Will the UHL Board consider directing its Travelwise department, GTS and other stakeholders to better recognise and address the health inequalities experienced by Rutland and rural Leicestershire residents as they face (sometimes prohibitive) high costs and difficult journeys to access healthcare.

Yours Sincerely



Dr Janet Underwood, PhD
Chair, Healthwatch Rutland

Continued../

CC Robin Pointon, Go Travel Solutions

Harsha Kotecha, Chair, Healthwatch Leicester and Leicestershire

Andy William, Chief Executive, LLR CCGs

Mark Andrews, Interim Chief Executive, Rutland County Council

Cllr Alan Walters, Portfolio holder, Health and Social Care, Rutland County Council