

**JULIAN SMITH MP**

Skipton & Ripon



**HOUSE OF COMMONS**

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mrs Bridget Fletcher  
Airedale NHS Foundation Trust  
Chief Executive  
Skipton Road  
Steeton  
Keighley  
BD20 6TD

5 April 2017

Dear Bridget

I am writing following the decision by the Trust and CCG to close Harden ward, Castleberg hospital.

I was concerned that I and others were given no warning of this closure and would be grateful if we could discuss the reason for this in due course.

Moving forward I would appreciate being kept fully sighted on the options appraisal into the hospital and would like to meet at the earliest opportunity to discuss plans for this part of my constituency.

I have been contacted by GPs in Settle, local councillors and other constituents and want to ensure that momentum is maintained to protect and enhance health provision in this highly rural and isolated part of my constituency and North Yorkshire.

Please can your office liaise with mine to set a mutually convenient date.

Yours sincerely

**Julian Smith MP**

Cc: Prof Michael Luger, Chairman, Airedale NHS Foundation Trust,  
Dr, James Thomas, Clinical Chair, Airedale, Wharfedale & Craven CCG,  
Helen Hirst, Accountable Officer, Airedale, Wharfedale & Craven CCG