

LORD DARZI SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY HOSPITALS

Dr Kirsten Protherough, Chair of the CHA wrote to Lord Darzi on behalf of the CHA to congratulate him on his report, and to share the CHA contribution to the consultation on the NHS 10 Year Plan. Lord Darzi responded with a very clear message about the value of community hospitals.



LORD DARZI OF DENHAM

“Community hospitals.... will clearly play an important role in the shifting of more healthcare into the community, which I’ve been advocating for twenty years. The effective use of community hospitals is crucial in supporting flow through acute hospitals and treating people more locally.”

Lord Darzi published his [Independent Investigation of the National Health Service in England](#) in September 2024 as a contribution to the 10 year Plan for the NHS. We support Lord Darzi’s report findings and recommendations, and in particular:

- ◇ **LOCK IN THE SHIFT OF CARE CLOSER TO HOME BY HARDWIRING FINANCIAL FLOWS**
- ◇ **RE-ENGAGE STAFF AND RE-EMPOWER PATIENTS**
- ◇ **SIMPLIFY AND INNOVATE CARE DELIVERY FOR A NEIGHBOURHOOD NHS.**

The CHA queried the lack of reference specifically to Community Hospitals within the report, given their role in providing community capacity for health and care. Lord Darzi explained that there was a lack of data specifically for community hospitals. The CHA has been identifying this as an issue for many years.

“I am sorry that community hospitals weren’t a focus of my recent review. Part of the challenge is that I was led by the data and data specifically from community hospitals can be lacking (either because it is not collected or it is not disaggregated).”

Lord Darzi concluded his communication by writing:

“Thank you for your championing of the important contributions community hospitals make.”

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE LORD DARZI OF DENHAM OM KBE
PAUL HAMLYN CHAIR OF SURGERY, IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON
CONSULTANT SURGEON, IMPERIAL COLLEGE HEALTHCARE NHS TRUST & THE ROYAL MARSDEN NHS FOUNDATION TRUST
INDEPENDENT MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS

JANUARY 2025

‘The national voice for Community Hospitals’

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