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24 September 2014

Duane Passman  
3Ts Programme Director/SRO  
Sussex House  
Royal Sussex County Hospital

24<sup>th</sup> September 2014

Dear Duane,

### 3Ts Full Business Case

The 3Ts business cases describe the very significant challenges for nursing and the wider healthcare team in providing the high quality care to which we aspire in the current environments of the Barry Building and Hurstwood Park in particular.

As the recent Care Quality Commission and PLACE (Patient-Led Audit of the Care Environment) inspections highlighted and in spite of very best efforts of clinical teams, the age and design of these buildings and the poor physical links to the rest of the sites imposes significant limitations on our ability to provide fulfil the *Fundamental Standards of Care* and the '6Cs' of *Compassion in Practice*.

The Barry Building opened in 1828, eight years before Florence Nightingale and 23 years before Mary Seacole were born, and we know that some of the current bed spacing is less than that standard they set during the Crimean War over 160 years ago.

Clinical leaders and frontline staff from nursing, Health Professions and the wider multidisciplinary teams have been engaged in the planning and design process since the inception of the 3Ts programme in 2008. Ensuring patient quality, safety and experience (including privacy and dignity) has been a significant focus of this work, and the 3Ts redevelopment will mean a step-change in the quality of the environment we offer.

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Of particular note:

- the proportion of single inpatient rooms (which significantly exceeds the current Department of Health minimum requirement) and provision of en suite bathroom/toilet facilities;
- provision of single-sex accommodation (in line with Department of Health guidance);
- separation of Facilities Management and patient flows throughout the buildings;
- quality of the overall design of the care environment and public spaces/amenities; and
- the significantly improved access to the re-tailed Royal Sussex County Hospital estate that 3Ts will also achieve, which is a long-standing concern of Disability Access audits.

I am therefore writing as Chief Nurse to confirm my full and continuing support for the 3Ts redevelopment and its investment objectives, and will write separately to sign off the Quality Impact Assessment (QIA) undertaken on the Cost Improvement Plans (CIPs) enabled by the redevelopment.

Yours sincerely,



Sherree Fagge  
Chief Nurse  
Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals

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